

AVIATION



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People flying ships two years old have no idea what work has gone on behind the scenes in research and engineering. When you see the advance models of the new Curtiss-Wright fleet in this issue, you cannot fail to be impressed with the strides of Curtiss-Wright production. Each ship has new developments in speed and sturdiness, in servicing and control, that open up the market for planes wider than ever before. For the same talent that has engineered world-famed fighting and commercial craft has here produced seven ships so reasonable in cost and in operation, that anyone can own or pilot a Curtiss-Wright airplane!



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AVIATION

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION . . . Vol. 144

The Oldest American Aeronautical Magazine

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AVIATION
February, 1932

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February, 1932

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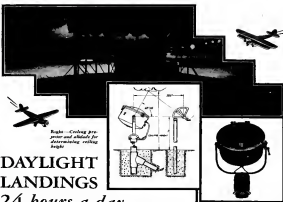
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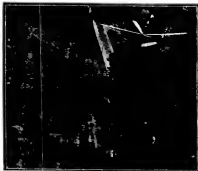


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The AUTOGIRO

... its potentialities to the
Airplane Industry

The inherent aerodynamic stability of the Autogiro, by permitting take-offs, landings and all normal flying maneuvers with slow deliberation, cuts the pilot training period at least in half and makes it entirely possible for the average individual to consider the operation and ownership of an aircraft, as he now owns and operates an automobile. The Autogiro eliminates the need for the lightninglike decisions that now put such a premium on highly expert flying skill. Dependence upon such skill is one of the great limiting barriers to growth of the airplane industry.



Above: After a short run of 30 to 40 yards, reaching a speed of about 25 miles per hour, an Autogiro can immediately assume an extraordinarily sharp angle of climb. In addition to the great practical value of its slowey motion, it stays open, level spot of ground, the inexperienced pilot or passenger is freed of this like and fear of the long, high-speed ground run, necessary for the average airplane.

At left: This photograph shows the Autogiro in slow flight. Note the shadows thrown by the craft. What would be a disturbing position for a plane of the conventional type, is freed from all danger by the ability of the Autogiro to fly with slow deliberation at speeds as low as 20 miles per hour or at speeds well over 100 miles per hour.

The Autogiro affords unusual maneuverability. It can turn in a remarkably short space and at low speeds, although capable of speeds well over 100 miles per hour. To the aviator, this ability to turn without fear of loss of speed adds tremendous security. Furthermore, if he desires he can check his speed and let his Autogiro settle safely on any clear spot of ground.

Below: Demonstrating the ability of the Autogiro in emergencies to check its speed and gently descend in front of any obstacle it cannot clear. An impossible performance for the conventional airplane. In normal landing, the Autogiro can check its own speed, deliberately choose its landing spot, hover for a moment and set itself on the ground with a jarring ease—with no forward speed at all. Probably the most amazing demonstration of the value of the Autogiro principle, and a tremendous relief to teacher and student of flying alike.



Above: The camera here caught the Autogiro just after it settled over the surrounding trees and a moment before its wheels touched. Autogiro performance from the novice to the hazards of high-speed take-off and high-speed landing. Outstanding pilots agree that it will cut the time and cost of learning to fly more than half.

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AUTOGIRO

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Let him put on another ship four or five hours earlier or later, and there should be another group of passengers, previously unheard from, for that one.

As a matter of fact, doubling or tripling the schedule should mean that double or triple the traffic. There certainly are a considerable number of business men in America who after a few unfortunate experiences with schedules have come to the disguised conclusion that air transport is so good because it never goes when it is wanted. Therefore, even on those occasions on which the requirements of a particular trip do happen to blend with the schedule provided by the airline the fact is apt to be overlooked, because air transport has been dropped from mind into a limbo of supposed futility.

There could be no greater aid to the development of the air traveling habit than to advise those who must move about frequently and rapidly, and often on short notice, about the companies that the airplanes are starting all the time instead of trying to force the passenger to fit his own needs to the airline's convenience, try fitting the schedule to the passenger's convenience.

That is now being done in a few cases, and it makes a veritable revolution in air transport. It makes the first serious attempt to take advantage of one of the airplane's greatest assets, heretofore wholly scorned: its divisibility into small units. With every previously existing vehicle of public transport, by land or by sea, large speed and comfort were to be attained only by very large size. No limited train offers accommodations for less than 150 passengers, and no fast ocean liner for less than four or five hundred. Only the airplane permits of offering speed, comfort, and safety to groups of six or eight. Only the airplane, therefore, can afford real frequency of schedule. Yet we have not the opportunity to provide it lightly aside while we pursue the will-o'-the-wisp of the giant airplane, which no airline could afford to operate more than once or twice a day under present conditions. It will be time enough to look for 50-passenger airplanes when we have exploited traffic to the limit with smaller ships, and have exceeded their capacity. We shall not have exploited traffic to the limit until hourly departures have become standard practice.

PARK THE AIRPORT

AIRPORTS are the public's first point of contact with the airplane. Considering the public interest in aviation and the value to the industry of public effort upon it, it is surprising that there has been so little effort toward making the airport a recreation center.

Swan Island municipal airport, Portland, Oregon, is completely ignored to prevent that and is surrounded by a paved highway with liberal parking areas for visitors who wish to observe the operations there. Oakland, Cal., has provided a veritable parking area, adjoining the

municipal field, for several thousand automobiles. The magnificent provision at Curtiss-Reynolds Field, Chicago, became familiar to every visitor to the Roan of 1930. Many ports now have restaurants where one may watch flight operations while enjoying a meal, not merely consuming one. The city of Burbank, Cal., is building a beautiful public park adjoining Van Ness Airport. Fairfax Field, Kansas City, is being elaborately landscaped.

Unfortunately, the examples cited above are not typical. All branches of the aircraft industry would profit by the sponsorship of a campaign to provide accommodations at airports for the general public. The quicker people become familiar with airplanes, the quicker they will ride in them. The more people ride in planes, the more they will buy other planes or register interest. The industry's only direct road to the general public is via the airport. Make the airport itself attractive and the public will come to the industry.

AERIAL EXPLORATION

IN the aviation industry's efforts to bring about widespread acceptance of the airplane one market has failed to receive the emphasis which its possibilities merit. Few people realize the vast importance and scope of the activities of commercial and scientific explorers. Roadlines are devoted to the aerial explorations of Byrd and Wilkins, and we too readily conclude that exploration is an uncommon thing in those days, only engaged in for the purpose of flying over lands never before visited by man.

As a matter of fact, much of the most vital exploration is being done almost within arm's length of our centers of civilization. Every mineral prospector is an explorer. Every geological or archaeological party is performing exploration work. There are literally hundreds of such parties constantly at work in various parts of the earth, and their programs could be speeded almost indefinitely in any cases through judicious use of the airplane.

Much of the development of aviation in Canada and Alaska has been as an aid to prospectors and miners. The same is largely true in South Africa and Australia. For several years the exploring party a maximum amount of time at the mine of their work, and a maximum degree of independence of their surroundings. They could be the easiest kind of customers.

Of equal importance with the commercial prospecting, as an aircraft carrier is the scientific party studying the weather in remote parts of the globe, or seeking the history of lost races in the jungles of Africa, India, or Central America. The airplane can be of the greatest use in exploring such territories as Africa, Persia, the Malay Peninsula, the interior of Australia, and even parts of Nevada and New Mexico. The whole world would profit from the establishment of remote weather obser-

vation stations, supplied by airplane where no ground transport exists. Systems of archeology can greatly enrich world culture by a wider use of the airplane for uncovering the secrets of dead civilizations. The commercial possibilities in prospecting for minerals with air transport are most alluring.

It is the task of the aviation industry to recognize itself with the problems of its customers. Here is a concrete case. Here is a call to learn enough about all branches of the "expedition industry" so that we shall really know where and how it can apply planes advantageously. In so doing we shall open the way to sell a good number of planes to be put to work where they will be good at once for aviation and for mankind in general.

GLIDER REGULATION

THE thread that suspends the sword of Damocles has been renewed. The builders of motorless aircraft have been given another six months before the axe is to fall. The date upon which no application for a glider license must be accompanied by stress analysis and licensed engineering data has been postponed to July 1, 1931. Still, a postponement is only a postponement, and a threat, even though covered into the future, remains a threat.

We sincerely sympathize with the Department of Commerce in the dilemma into which it has been thrust, but it is impossible to avoid feeling compassion for the amateur builder of gliders, confronted with an ultimate rigorous application of the Air Commerce regulations.

If the federal law were the only one that had to be considered, there would be no problem. The Air Commerce Act applies only to aircraft used in interstate commerce, and the number of gliders so employed is, to put it conservatively, small. However, unfortunately from many points of view but unfortunately from this one, a number of states have laws of their own which provide that there must be federal licenses upon all aircraft operating within the state. A glider is an aircraft. Hence the prospect that in these states every glider will have to go through all the rigors of stress analysis to Washington and at flight test that is prerequisite for an A.T.C. or a Group II approval on an airplane. Hence, especially, the threatened intensity of inspection by a representative of the Department of Commerce, or under a very recent amendment to the rules, by a licensed air-

The statistical pages which have occasionally followed immediately after the news are omitted from this number of AVIATION. These several columns, with a great amount of other material, will be included in the annual statistical issue, to appear next month. In March we shall present the same type of material given in the statistical issue of March 23, 1930, but brought up to date and improved in form of presentation, and supplemented by much that is entirely new. It is suggested that unless far more copies should be placed in advance, as no large stock is carried on hand after publication.

the machines have been flown on identification numbers to open database of statistics.

Worse than any possible result of federal action, is the possibility of independent state legislation. One state has already made a rule that every glider must be built by a licensed airplane mechanic, and is collecting license fees of \$15 on every glider and \$10 on every pilot.

For solution of the problem, and simplification of the studies between the glider and the government there seems to be three possibilities. First, all states which now definitely require a federal license for all aircraft and operators might amend their law to exclude the glider. That would probably take about seven years, and even then it wouldn't be done everywhere, so the glider interest is too small to get legislatures really stirred up about it. Second, the Department of Commerce might very much simplify the requirements for glider licenses, making the visual inspection plan without submission of stress analysis permanent instead of temporary and abandoning all physical requirements for pilot's licenses. That would be definitely objectionable, for the Department ought to have some kind of a certificate that implies a guarantee of the quality of design and construction. The manufacturer of gliders ought to be able to meet all the existing stipulations, and receive an A.T.C. and license as a sort of sterling mark for his product.

Thus there is a third possibility. The word "license" as applied to aircraft and aircraft has become associated through specific inclusion in state and federal statutes. Be it so. But create two grades of glider licenses. There certainly is no legal bar to, and we can see no very serious practical difficulty in, the issuance of class A and class B certificates. Let the former carry all the dignity of an airplane license and be based on an A.T.C. awarded with all due formality, but let there be a second grade, a license granted directly after visual inspection of the finished product. Let specific exceptions be made for gliders under the rule covering repairs, subjecting them only to general stipulations that the repair shall follow the original design, and that any glider may be grounded at any time by any state or federal inspector.

The trend, or those who have not followed the record of glider mishaps over the past year, may suspect us of prying the way for a holocaust of young lives. As a matter of fact, not one glider accident in five has had anything to do with the structure of the glider. Mishaps have been those that would have been grounded upon the most casual glance by an inspector, that were obviously defective in every detail, and the work of artisans who had no idea of what aircraft construction was like, and still they have miraculously escaped accident as long as they have been handled with some slight discretion. The 40 per cent, or more, of glider accidents that are not attributable to design and construction of the machine are directly due to over-ambitious attempts by the inexperienced, or to attempts to change the slightest measure of compass serve should have profited. The permanent's technique in handling glider student permits is admirable. The most important safety measure that can be taken in glider operation is a general insistence that recruits should train and practice only under the supervision of some competent person—and his competence should be moral rather than physical. A reasonable measure of good judgment and a very large amount of discretion are the teacher's most important qualifications.

State legislation has made for the Department of Commerce no case in the glider field which the Department can ignore. The laws now exist, and only the Department can lead the way toward permitting a reasonable use of gliders without undue formality and without having the machines tied up much of the time waiting for the visits of inspectors. As a promising means of escape from present and prospective embarrassments, the dual license pilot is urged upon their consideration.

AIR MAIL FOR OVERSEAS AMERICA

DURING the past two and a half years, American air mail operations have increased from 25,000 to 75,000 miles scheduled daily. Three transcontinental services have been supplied. South America has been served, and Central America and the Caribbean have been interlaced, with the travels of American commercial planes, and yet not a single one of the territories of the United States beyond its continental boundaries, save only Porto Rico and the Canal Zone, have been given the benefit of government-supported air service.

Look to the Pacific. The Hawaiian group of islands spreads out over a thousand miles. Owing them that are completely isolated and nearly or quite unpopulated, there are five islands of real commercial importance, and they run 300 miles from Kaula in the West to Hawaii in the East. Two or three times a week the various members of the group are served by little steamers, plying along at ten or twelve miles an hour. From Honolulu

to Hilo, the two most important cities of the territory, is an all-night voyage. By air it takes two or three hours. There have been twenty attempts to maintain an air service, but, like air freight operations elsewhere, they have faced a formidable financial problem. The Postmaster General is empowered by law to contract for air mail service among the islands, offering terms that will make it worth while to secure good equipment and maintain a good ground organization. A contract ought to be awarded—forthwith.

The case of Hawaii is good, but there is a still better one nearer home. Off to the northwest of the United States, reaching an arc down along the coast of British Columbia for several hundred miles toward Puget Sound, is Alaska, once derided as "Seward's folly" because that statesman was so reckless as to expend \$7,000,000 on its purchase. The territory has become one of our greatest fisheries, one of our greatest potential reservoirs of mineral wealth, and an export trade of \$50,000,000 annually. Our total volume of commerce with the territory exceeds our trade with Peru, Uruguay, or Venezuela.

Alaska is even more equipped with surface transport than is Hawaii. A railroad runs from Seward up to Fairbanks, with a few short spurs elsewhere, and steamers work their way in and out among the islands along the coast. Flying conditions, over much of the country and through much of the year, are by no means difficult. A start has been made through years of operation by the late Ben Keshone and Noel Wren and the Alaska-Wellington Airways and others, to say nothing of the Army and Navy. Quite as definitely in Central America or south central Asia, this territory depends upon transportation for its future, and for the exploitation of its wealth. The Weather Bureau is planning to spend \$24,000 there, and \$32,000 in Hawaii, on aerological reconnaissance flights of the South by operation of a Postmaster General has it in his power to give contracts and to start mail routes to operating. Again, why not?

We do not underestimate the importance of maintaining air communication with foreign countries. The benefits are both political and economic, but let us not stress them at to overlook entirely the case for our own territories. For the coming year we are to spend \$27,000,000 in providing air mail service at home and abroad. One hundred and fifty thousand dollars in Hawaii and \$300,000 in Alaska, less than two per cent of the total sum, would maintain regular services of the greatest economic importance.

Semi-Annual Index

THE semi-annual index of AVIATION for Volume 29 (July to December, 1930) is now ready. Copies may be secured by writing to the Circulation Department, AVIATION, 30th Street and Tenth Avenue, New York City.

News of the Month

NEW AIRLINE SCHEDULES

HOURS passenger service at times. The new routes, as planned, will add to the airline service for the coming summer. These have been announced for a group of lines, with the general attention to the New York-Pittsburgh and Washington, Chicago, Cleveland, and probably St. Louis, Kansas City, and various other cities. E. L. Cord, youthful president of the automobile industry and controlling factor in the Stinson and Leasing companies, appears to be the moving spirit in the new plan, and Leasing parent. Several long-range planes will be used. One hundred planes are reported to have been ordered, and the plan is to start service on March 9.

In the meantime, some additions to existing schedules are being made. Eastern Air Transport extended its passenger service from Atlanta to Miami on Jan. 1, leaving Atlanta daily at 9:15 a.m. and reaching Miami at 4:45 p.m., with a stop at Jacksonville. The return trip is also made by day, and is scheduled to leave Miami at 8:15 a.m. and reaching Atlanta at 4:45 p.m. The new line two new Eastern Air Transport expects to equip its existing service over the coast routes of the South by operation of a round-trip straight down the coast from Richmond to Jacksonville. Not all of the new service has been in the South, in spite of winter weather, a new company, to be known as Tri-State Airways, has opened passenger operations between Detroit and Chicago, replacing the Stout Air Line service, recently suspended by National Air Transport which it absorbed the Stout company. The Tri-State has monthly more trips a day in this direction, and is now using Stinson Flyers with a plan to put Lockheed into service shortly. The only intermediate stop is in St. Louis, home of the Stinson Corporation and of Kratz Aviation Inc., and the fare from Detroit to Chicago is \$15.00, or just over double a passenger-mile.

Chicago has another new air passenger service provided by National Air Transport. Leaving from New York metropolis to Kansas City, Tri-State's Fords were put into operation carrying passengers on Jan. 2, the west-bound run being made in the morning and the eastbound in the afternoon. At the same time the N.A.T. route to the southwest was changed to make St.

Joseph, Mo., flying from Midway, Ill., to Kansas City without stop.

Another change in schedule took effect just before the first of the year on Transcontinental and Western Air, and further reduced the importance of the aerial combination in transcontinental service as compared with the straight through air service. Passengers leaving New York on Monday evening by train, for example, will henceforth fly only from Columbus to Tulsa on Tuesday, and on Wednesday night will board at Amarillo the same plane for the rest that they would have received if they had flown straight through from New York to Kansas City, leaving Monday morning. The second section that used to go through for the express portion of the air-mail service is now being flown from Los Angeles at half past three in the afternoon, has been cancelled and there will be only one daily service west of Amarillo.

RATE REVISION AND TRAFFIC

ALTHOUGH there has been no actual announced rate-cutting as studied the winter months of 1931-32, modern conditions have made it necessary to raise rates on some routes by or substituting in Detroit Aircraft and Transport Corporation. As at their previous, including Boeing, National Air Transport, Eastern Air Transport and Varney lines will be reduced about 15 per cent from the former average. The fare

from New York to San Francisco by N.A.T. will now be \$227.36, having been \$250.00 before Jan. 1. Even without the aid of violent fare reductions, very satisfactory passenger traffic is being reported. The New York, Philadelphia, and Washington routes, or Chicago, St. Louis, Kansas City, or Chicago, in fact, maintain an average of 140 per day. A total of 4,150 trips have been completed. Most encouraging are the returns for December, following on a reduction in round trip fares, fall in size of the generally had weather during that month 4,252 passengers were carried, and a one-day record of 266 passengers was made on the day before Christmas.

The Christiana Airlines also produced a new record on the West Coast, 90 passengers, traveling between Los Angeles and San Francisco on the Transcontinental and Western Air plane in a single day.

Airlines continue to display restraint over the necessity of paying a tax on the fuel that they use in order to support State Highway programs. The Boeing Air Transport Company has petitioned the federal district court in Washington for an injunction to prevent the state and territory from levying a tax on fuel used in Boeing planes, alleging it as unwarrantable interference with interstate commerce.

AIR MAIL TO CANADA

THE Post Office Department has been active in extending air mail service to the north. On Feb. 2 the Chicago-St. Paul mail route of Northwest Airways will be extended through North Dakota as far as Bismarck, a side route of the Canadian border. The new extension is approximately 300 mi. in length. Connection will be made at Foulke with a Canadian air mail service from that city to Winnipeg, to be opened at the same time. The westbound service will leave Chicago at 11:30 p.m. and arrive in Winnipeg at 11 the next afternoon, while the eastbound plane will leave Winnipeg at 9:15 in the morning and arrive in Chicago at 7:25 the same evening.

The new route is the result of negotiations carried on by Assistant Postmaster-General W. Irving Lewis with T. W. Allen, who holds a position in the Canadian Post Office, corresponding to Mr. Oliver's own. The Canadian air mail line has been

Calendar

March 10-11	West Michigan Conference, Grand Rapids, Mich.
March 12-13	Annual Meeting of the American Association of Commercial Pilots, New York, N.Y.
April 15-16	Alaskan Aircraft Show, Fairbanks, Alaska
May 15-16	International Air Show, Houston, Tex.
May 27-28	Western Aircraft Show, Portland, Ore.
June 1-2	International Air Show, Cleveland, Ohio
June 1-2	International Air Show, Cleveland, Ohio
June 1-2	International Air Show, Cleveland, Ohio
June 1-2	International Air Show, Cleveland, Ohio

and tail wheels; almost exceptional two years ago, both these developments were so common. Incidentally, it is not without interest to recall here that French machines of 1907-1908 vintage were fitted with tail wheels. Similarly, the first plane with landing gear made of two entirely independent axles, was the Army type "Aéro-motric" built in 1911 by Lioré et Olivier. (It was in addition the first pure cantilever with thick, tapered low wing); and 1914 bombing Vaux biplanes had wheel brakes. The use of aerebrakes, now so common in America, is not yet the fashion in Europe; only two planes were shown so equipped. Anti-sail devices are developing; automatic slots were fitted in several machines, while France exhibited a "safety landing edge," which is in fact a permanent slot. An interesting development in the Constanta aerodrome was, which provides a very simple and light system of automatic piloting with a minimum of moving parts.

The third important tendency in the progress of aerial construction in Europe, and particularly France, is following in this respect just the reverse of American practice, in that welded steel construction has only



A welded S.E.C.M. joint for stabilizer structure as employed in the construction of the Anzani 144 monoplane. Different other structures are used in the construction of such aircraft.

been much to the fore (and not used at all in France, since it was vigorously banned by the Service Technique, which has only recently authorized welding, and only under severe control). Light alloys were by far the most favored materials and are still very much in vogue, but interest in welding appears to be developing now. The outstanding novelty in construction is the new Duguesne method, which is represented by the Br 270 "all steel" observation monoplane. Here the whole of the stressed structure is made of steel, almost exclusively in the sheet form suitably shaped, with duralumin for less important parts, such as ribs and covering. The construction is completely rigid and assemblies are carried out without welding, standard bolts being employed where disassembly is necessary and routing difficulties. Special care has been taken in design to allow for use of automatic riveting machines wherever possible; the number of rivets is reduced to the minimum. The ship's structure compares as its fundamental result the single spar of the lower wing, upon which rests the central part of the fuselage, a steel girder box. To the latter is secured the tail member, another steel spar almost identical with that of the lower wing. The central box receives the detachable engine mount as found on the top wing's struts (theropons). A "V"-shaped interplane strut connects top and lower planes on each side. The landing gear comprises two independent streamlined wheels, each mounted in a fork fitted to the bottom plate, with auto-pneumatic shock absorber and brakes. The crew's cockpit is built as an independent streamlined body resting upon the structure, as is in an emergency the whole. The new wheel covers have with its slender tail boom projecting from the stern of the body.

In a continued wood and metal construction, organized by M. de Monge, wooden members are placed inside metal profiles to act both as stiffeners and as a means of assembly. Local building occurs only under very high loads, and the covering sheets are fastened by wood screws, making these easily removable.

Another interesting point is the development of the big flying-boat in France, where it has been much neglected of late. The new, far a seaborne craft capable of regular mail operation over the South Atlantic has been an incentive in this direction, and the Navy is also desirous of possessing better machines for high-sea work. Several French manufacturers have worked on this program and two of them exhibited large flying boats.

In a different direction, it is the first time that enclosed machines have figured so prominently. Here again the American example has been followed.

As to types of engines, Europe was still mostly rather in favor of orthodox water-cooled models. Supporters of the air-cooled school have now succeeded in obtaining better all-around results, and we find this year two-thirds of the exhibited planes fitted with air-cooled engines.

Apart from airplanes, the other types of flying machines were represented by one Weymann-La Cerva



New Farman in its biplane configuration with Hispano-Suiza motor; multi-drive supercharger.

Asaques, a very orthodox training glider, and parts of the structure of a small Zivko seaplane. No other unconventionalities were on display. Certainly design has settled down for a time, and engineers are concentrating themselves rather more with matters of efficiency, safety, and lower production and maintenance costs than with experiments with speculative novelties.

FOURTH aviation has now made a start in France, with the strong support of the Air Ministry's pressure system. A good choice was no view and the list price of a normal two-seater with a 60-300-hp engine is generally something around 60,000 and 100,000 francs (\$2,400 to \$4,000).

A novelty was the introduction of steel amphibians for the private owner by Lioré et Olivier and Schreck-F.B.A. Both monoplanes with conventional hull and pusher power unit above the wing, they had enclosed cabins with good

view forward and downward, but rather enclosed vision to the rear.

There are in Europe rather fewer side planes with fuselages to suit than in America, but this class of machine is developing. The Farman 190 was shown respectively, having as it does many long tail booms to its credit, including the recent Paris-Saigon-Paris 14,300-mi. trip in eleven stages done by Lioré et Olivier and Gaudet, the Nieuport-Delage 641 all-wood cantilever monoplane also had interesting features, as did the Blériot 111 biplane low-wing monoplane with retractable undercarriage. Bigger transport planes were 8 to 10-seater monoplanes with 500 to 600 hp, water-cooled engines, such as the Duguesne 35 and Hispano-Delage 540, both of metal construction and with center-line high wings.

In the still heavier class, bi-engined types of planes were the rule: Farman 300, Latécoere 330, Wibault 260 low-wing, which was all-metal throughout, and Fokker F.VI, the latter, with three Japhis 460 hp. engines, carrying 22 passengers. In the two latter classes, air-cooled engines of 450 to 550 hp. are much less frequently used in Europe than in the case in America. The Hispano-Delage 540 was the only twin-engine example, the Blériot 125, which has twin fuselages suspended beneath the wing, each housing a cabin for six passengers and a tandem wheel undercarriage, while engines in tandem were carried in a nacelle resting upon the wing and controlling also the enclosed cockpit.

The flying-boat transport class included the big Lioré et Olivier II. 27 with four 600 hp. engines, designed for South-Atlantic service; only the hull was shown. The machine is a cantilever monoplane built of steel with a span of 111 ft. The engines, housed in pairs in two nacelles, are accessible in flight through a tunnel in the wing. The total weight is 36,200 lb., including 1,330 lb. of payload and enough fuel for a non-stop flight of 1,000 mi. against a continuous 30-mph head wind. Cruising speed is 124 mph. Another ship for the same purpose, the Latécoere 380, with two 650 hp. tandem engines, was announced, but replaced at the last moment by the Lioré 263 single-engine four-seater plane with which Hispano made the first South-Atlantic mail crossing. One of the new machines was the Duguesne E.S., a new and improved edition of the well-known Superard, this time with four 650 hp. Hispano-Suiza engines, placed in two tandem groups above the wing. The new Duguesne has 125 ft. span and possesses an unusual bracing, the middle spar being supported by a strut, which is fixed to the rear axle and connected to the hull by pairs of strengthened wires.

Mail planes figured in Constant and Société Provencale de Constructions Aéronautiques booths; they were both three-engine monoplanes, the latter made of metal. It must be said here that there are in Europe no real planes of the class existing in America; but and powerful single-engine types are unknown. In France now, the term mail plane applies rather to a small machine, probably three-engine, and designed to carry about 450 to 750 lb. at moderate speed with maximum safety by day or night.

Only 21 military machines were on view, including Navy planes. The most interesting exhibit was the new S.E.C.M.-Anzani 140, a multi-seater twin-engine cantilever monoplane with all-metal construction. The

700 hp. Lorraine "Orion" engines are installed on each side, their rear portions being accessible in flight.

Permit next-actors were few, the most interesting being the Dewoitine 27 with which Moréel went broke on Dec. 1 the International speed record for 1,000 km. in an average of 178 mph., and the Polish P.Z.I.-VI. The latter is an all-metal monoplane with wing-root thinned and attached to the top boom of the fuselage, whence they spread out and above for some length, to



The new Dewoitine 27 "all metal" observation monoplane carried with the 200 hp. Hispano-Suiza engine. Note fuselage shape and vertical propeller mounting.

become horizontal afterwards. A great improvement in vision is claimed for this disposition. [It is, of course, the same as the gull-wing layout used in several recent American designs.—Ed.]

Interest naturally centered around the heavy-oil engines which were shown to the general public for the first time. The Cugnot, which has already many hours of flight to its credit, was of course the star exhibit. Several examples were shown in various booths and disassembled parts were on view in the Safety Exposition of the Air Ministry, since all the research work was carried out by M. Cugnot in the laboratories of the Service Technique with the latter's co-operation. Two types have been made, the 100 hp. and the 250 hp. The second is already an improved model and it is understood that production is to be started soon, the Hispano-Suiza Company having acquired license rights. Other oil engines are exhibited by Peugeot (Jadasson-Hosson) and Cordoba (Cordoba).

Supercharging is becoming general practice in orthodox designs, either in moderate form to assist induction, or with higher pressures to maintain power at fairly great heights. Farman has been noteworthy in this respect for years. M. Weymann, the technical director, is now working in conjunction with the Hispano Company, and compressors with several stages and several gear ratios are contemplated.

It must be recalled here that Freestone-testing does not seem to have been investigated. N.A.C.A. coverings also were not to be seen, the Townsend ring being shown only by Boulton and Paul.

There was the usual number of accessories, impossible to review in this article. It must however be mentioned that inertia engine starters, which were hitherto completely unknown in Europe, are making their appearance.

THE LIGHT PLANE SITUATION

The light plane production for 1931 is conservatively estimated at 500. The encouraging prospects, the defects of the situation, and the most discussed types are considered in this article.

If there is to be any feature, which will be characteristic of the aeronautical market for 1931, as the glider activity of 1930 was the outstanding innovation for that period, it will undoubtedly be the attempt to promote the sale of light planes, with engines of less than 50 hp. There is much that is legitimate and sound in this general opinion. There are also many features of the project which would bear a certain amount of well considered



The Beech Bonanza

tempering at this time. There is no need for repeating the marketing mistakes of 1929 and 1930.

In 1928, when planes of this class were having quite a vogue in England, there were several factors which hampered any great corresponding activity in this country. Most of the dissatisfaction was furnished by the large number of CX-5 engines available at that time, whose low price and superior horsepower obstructed the development of any cheap and satisfactory small engine in America, and about which were being developed the same questions these plane owners, which obstructed the bulk of the capital, energy, and interest then available for aeronautical purposes. The absence of any real number of potential pilot-owners was also a definite deterrent.

The present situation is somewhat more encouraging, especially if 1932 and 1933 are considered, as well as the present season. The mounting of CX-5 engines is



The Curtiss Junior, popular monoplane



The Aeromax biplane

becoming outmoded as far as new planes are concerned. There are approximately 6,000 more licensed pilots than licensed airplanes and there are 20,000 current student permits, according to a recent bulletin issued by the Department of Commerce. Several good engine types are being offered in this power range and more are in prospect. Engineering and manufacturing techniques have advanced. The 200-hp. equipment for the transport pilot license has created the need for inexpensive instruction and flying experience, and sport flying is on the increase.

Definitely and for all time, there are certain limitations in speed and capacity of these very light planes, which render them less attractive for cross-country and some other purposes. And there is in the making an extensive example of a characteristic of past aeronautical markets, which has prevented the achievement of industrial stability, and lends an obstacle to the reaping of any substantial financial profit by any single or small group of manufacturers—too many types, too many sources, little or potential, of a product for a distinctly limited market.

MOST of the preceding general considerations, as well as much a part of last year's history, as they are an outcome of the present situation and future prospect. The opening of 1930 found but one factory building planes of this class, which had achieved any appreciable production in the past, the Heath Aircraft Corporation of Chicago. Heath planes have been known to the industry since 1925, when they began their still unbroken series of victories in the 110-cu-in. class at the National Air Races. Available in both the assembled and "assemble parts" condition, they continued in moderate production throughout the year. The yearly total for 1930

of the factory assembled product, as closely as it can be ascertained from all types of Heath derivation, is 25.

Early in March a new type of plane received its first individual identification numbers—between that date and the end of June, 85 Aeromax manufactured by the Aeromax Corporation of America were identified. Its presentation, as it took would have it, considered almost exactly with the first serious cuts made to plane prices in order to reduce excessive inventories. What the reception to these Aeromax would have been, without the competition of planes of three times the power dumped at approximately equal prices, makes an interesting matter for conjecture.

After the first of July a third light plane began to appear, the American Eaglet, a product of the American Eagle Aircraft Corporation of Kansas City, Kas. July, August and September saw the identification of eight of them, and the last three months of the year approximately 24 more.

These three were the only ones which exceeded a production of three or four planes in this size class during the entire year. There is, however, no more statistical demonstration for the period which shows more than general statement, concerning an over-abundance of types and sources. In the first half of 1930 there were 44, in the third quarter 50, and in the last quarter 49 aircraft.



Model: The American Eaglet, above; The Aeromax equipped as a triplane.

known planes with engines of less than 50 hp. appearing on the weekly lists of government identifications and licenses, which are published by the Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce. These are numerous figures, the lists give names of planes and engine but not the horsepower, the above totals include only the definitely recognizable ones.

When the engine is given as an Indian, Henderson, Ford T, Glenn, Seelye, or possibly a ball a dozen others, the plane of our class can be spotted, as it is also possible from the names of some of the planes themselves, but when the designation is simply that of a Jones plane with a Seelye engine one is completely at a loss whether one is dealing with a craft of 15 hp. or one of 1,000. The term miscellaneous is by no means without

content. Of the total 143 there must be 130 of different models and about the same number of different factories, or about as many sources. Of course the largest number of these are airplanes without prospect of more, but there is probably a surprising portion of them which are seriously considered as "the coming air flyer" at their local airports. Now one they all be dismissed as inevitably without merit, many of these airplanes have been competently and ingeniously designed. If no light plane market develops, 125 of the 130 types will linger in the memories of their designers and test pilots alone, if such a market does develop, even temporarily, there are perhaps 20 which might be listed as to the least degree.

The tabulated results of the identification and license survey is given below:

Type	Jan 4 Months	2nd Quarter	All Quarters	Total
Heath	15	17	3	35
Aeromax	15	8	2	25
American Eaglet	1	4	19	24
Others	24	14	12	50
Total	55	39	36	130

An attempt to describe all the planes in this class or even any large number of the technically important ones is obviously impossible. We have therefore selected four entirely on the basis of apparent public interest: the Aeromax, the Heath, the American Eaglet, and the Curtiss Junior. The general requirements for a successful design in this field are a high performance at low power, a requirement to withstand the stresses and strains of flying by beginners, and a simplicity of structure and fittings, which is important in achieving low priced production. The plane selected have attacked their unusual problems along parallel lines, but with enough individuality to form the basis for an interesting school of design practice.

Planes of this size and power have been assembled power gliders so often that it is possibly worth while to con-



sider just how much of their design shows any extraordinary influence. The Heath, from its history and general lines, is obviously a simple scaling down of airplane design features. The other three have the high aspect ratio wings, comparatively low landing angles, and four-hinge lines generally of considerable length, characteristic of soaring planes. But the first feature is one indicated as desirable from any aerodynamic point of departure, the

second was carried to an extreme only by Aerocraft, who we understand is already abandoning it in a coming 1931 model, and the fuselages certainly show little of the refinement associated with advanced sources. Furthermore, according to the best available information, at least three of the four individual designers concerned had little or no experience in glider design, previous to their work on these planes. Let us abandon now and for all our conception of this class of plane as glorified gliders.

There are certain points of similarity in all four planes, they all have fuselages of welded steel, they all use wooden spar and rib construction, and they all are fabric covered. As for general dimensions, the Curtiss Junior is a pusher while the rest are tractor. The Junior is also definitely a two-cockpit, two-passenger machine, the Heath definitely a single-seater, while the other two are single-seaters with arrangements for a passenger.

The ground model of the Heath, designed by E. H. Heath, contains the use of welded tube stream and tail surfaces, and their distinctive landing gear. The latter is of the light type, with struts only at the plane of the axle, the forward and backward forces being taken by bracing wires in the plane of the center leg. A door is in the side of the fuselage, a window in the wing for increased

Upper: Heath fuselage. Lower: Fuselage of American Junior

visibility, and a feature which allows the wing to be disassembled by removing only six bolts, and is jointly to the convenience and efficiency of operation. The plane is powered with the Henderson motor-cycle engine which has been greatly modified to suit it to aeronautical purposes. A large number of optional features are offered. A larger wing of 127 sq. ft. area for flying in regions of high altitudes, struts and fittings by which the powered wing is converted into a low one and is attached to the bottom longeron, duralumin propeller, wheel fenders, oil and fuel equipment, are all available to the purchaser.

The Aerocraft exhibits more originality in detail design than the other three types. J. A. Roche and R. A. Galloway are the designers. Its dimensions are built entirely of duralumin, the skin of which is of flat stock, into which strengthening transverse grooves have been formed at intervals of about 5 in. The resulting surface is wonderfully light. Control horns throughout the plane are extremely simple, the elevator horns being housed inside the vertical fin structure. The fuselage is rectangular in the rear of the cockpit; aft of this point the two top longerons are brought together into a single assembly. The planes first appeared with ordinary tires mounted on an axle instead into the lower part of the fuselage through units of shock absorber chord. These were later replaced by air-wheels on a rigid axle. The trend in both cases was naturally narrow and the landing simple low. As we mentioned above a racing model for this year will have a more orthodox type of landing gear as well as definite side-by-side seating capacity for two people. The Aerocraft engine, so far produced by the same factory, is used. It is of the two-opposed-cylinder type, its crank on "drag into the nose of the fuselage."

The Amer-Eaglet, designed by D. H. Webster, has several features which distinguish it from its fellows.

AVIATION February, 1931

AVIATION February, 1931

	No. of Seats	Engine	Enginepower	Wing Span	Wing Length	Wing Area	Wing Loading	Power Loading	Gross Weight	Use Weight	Top Speed	Fuel Capacity	Price*
Aerocraft	1-2	Henderson 2-125	150-170	34-0	5-0	20-0	100	10-2	900	375	75	100	\$5,000
American Junior	1	Clemons	25-30	24-0	4-0	20-0	100	10-2	900	375	75	100	\$2,000
Aerocraft Junior	2	Henderson	150	34-0	5-0	20-0	100	10-2	900	375	75	100	\$5,000
Curtiss Junior	2	Henderson 125	150-170	34-0	5-0	20-0	100	10-2	900	375	75	100	\$5,000
Heath	1	Heath 125	150-170	34-0	5-0	20-0	100	10-2	900	375	75	100	\$5,000

*Excludes available, including controls.

Its landing gear is a rigid structure of streamline tubing equipped with 7x30 in. low pressure tires. A door the depth of the fuselage gives easy access to the cockpit. The tubes forming the lower longerons are brought together at a point half way between the cockpit and tail post. It is powered with either the Clemons or the small Siskiyew engine. The plane with the latter engine is designed to carry two people.

The Curtiss Junior, which was designed by Karl H. Wheat, marks the first important reappearance of the pusher configuration in an American airplane in some years. For this particular class of plane a pusher should prove attractive because of its clearance of oil spray and exhaust gases, and its decreased propeller blast into the cockpit, and also because of its increased effectiveness on the control surfaces in the tail. The landing gear is very interesting, being a rigid type, formed of stream-

lined tubing, fastened to the lower longerons. The only exposed parts are the downward and outward projections about a foot in length, on which are mounted the low pressure tires. The tail make is placed in a center section and presents a full gravity feed to the engine, which is the larger model of the biplane. The fin is built integrally into the rear of the fuselage and forms a rigid support for the entire tail group.

The external bracing of the wings in the four types is widely varied. The Aerocraft wing is entirely braced by streamline wires running upward from the bottom longeron and downward from a ribcase. The Heath wing is braced by two wires which meet at a point in the bottom longeron and a system of drift wires. Both the Eaglet and the Junior are braced entirely by struts and tubing members. An advantage is claimed for this last type is that it is comparatively fool-proof when the struts and rigging is of the stainless variety. There is possibly some small aerodynamic penalty paid for it however.

The tail sheds again show a variety of choice. The Heath and Junior use the tail spring, while the Aerocraft and Eaglet have adopted the design shown in the accompanying illustration.

A table has been prepared of the general dimensions and claimed performances for the four planes, which appears at the top of this page. So great are the difficulties of accurate measurement and so wide the resulting variations that landing speeds are not included.

The Aerocraft and Heath have been successfully flown as airplanes and float equipment is provided for in all three types. It is understood that the Aerocraft is being prepared for an attempt at some of the records for airplanes of the lightest class. The results are awaited with interest.



Upper: Heath fuselage. Lower: Fuselage of American Junior



Heath: Eaglet tail shed
Junior: Aerocraft tail shed



American tail group showing shock absorber horn



Eaglet illustration on Curtiss Junior

AVIATION RADIO IN EUROPE

By Gerald C. Gross

Inspector, Federal Radio Commission

EUROPE appears to have awakened to the need of radio in commercial aviation about as soon as passenger, mail, and freight flying was established.

In recent years, reports inseparable about the efficiency of radio communications in European aviation have reached the United States. Coming at a time when American flying interests were absorbed in the problems of adapting radio, these reports have been studied with deep interest.

Yet they have been conflicting, if not fragmentary. It was to determine whether European aviation had developed any uses for radio which might be beneficial to commercial aviation in the United States, that the Federal Radio Commission dispatched me on a tour of inspection of Europe's major airways to study their radio systems. This tour was made immediately following the close of the conference of the International Technical Consulting Committee on Radio Communications at The Hague on the afternoon of 1929, which I attended as a member of the American delegation.

My tour, necessarily brief because of limited time, was not begun without certain preconceived notions. Starting from The Hague, the tour included successive stops at Amsterdam, Elzenovo, Berlin, Cologne, Paris and London; unfortunately, time did not permit flights either into Northern Europe or into the countries along the Mediterranean.

Let me say at the outset that my experience with European air communication was delightful. As a passenger, I may say conservatively that all my flights were comfortable—in some cases luxurious. With one exception, they were executed with the punctuality of crack railroad trains. That exception was the Channel crossing from Paris to London, during which we encountered strong headwinds which brought us into Croydon 45 minutes late after a rather bumpy trip.

Radio communication between aircraft and ground is based on entirely different principles in Europe from those which form the foundation for the rapidly developing American system. In the first place, as the major contrast it is predicated upon the idea of government ownership and operation. This presents certain advantages in the way of centralized operation and responsi-

A comparison of European and American methods of radio application to aircraft use



The radio control tower on the Hainaut-Croydon Airport, Belgium

bility, but it also offers the disadvantages inherent in government operation.

In Europe, as in the United States, the use of radio on aircraft is primarily for the purpose of safeguarding life and property. All efforts are directed toward this end. Thus, while passenger planes are generally equipped with two-way communications facilities, these are confined entirely to the problems of flight. Since they concern precious time and as radio frequencies are very scarce, passenger messages are forbidden. There is even a strict limitation upon the amount of time an airplane radio set may be "on the air" in the course of routine flying.

Thus, except a passenger craft checks out of an airport it is subject to close control by the traffic officer at that port. Periodic reports by radio from the plane give his position and the ceiling, whether conditions encountered, etc. The traffic officer at the airport is expected to know the approximate position of the planes in his zone at all times.

An airplane leaving Croydon for Le Bourget, for example, sends a short report to Croydon's traffic officer as soon after the take-off as the radio operator has been able to assert his trailing wire antenna. This first re-

port provides a check on the apparatus and lets the port officer know that everything is going well.

Then the radio operator calls Croydon once more just before the plane leaves the English coast for the Channel crossing. As soon as the French coast is sighted, he reports again to Croydon; finally, his last report is sent out just before the landing at Le Bourget. Croydon has heard from the plane throughout its voyage to its very destination.

Messages, as previously mentioned, are confined strictly to the business of the flight—from the plane, indicated, flying conditions, condition of the craft, etc. Superfluous transmissions are strictly forbidden. Radiotelephony is used on most of the French and British planes, while Germany uses code.

Throughout the flight, of course, the plane has also been able to receive reports from the ground stations either at Croydon or Le Bourget. These reports give sudden changes in weather in the path of the plane and, as the plane nears its destination, they give landing instructions.

As for the radio apparatus used aboard the plane, there is little to distinguish it from the types of transmitters and receivers rapidly coming into use in this country—light weight, compact and usually completely self-contained. The principal difference, as will be shown later, is in the frequency bands used. The larger German planes have special radio operators to man the equipment, while the Dutch, French and British usually leave the radio to the co-pilot or mechanic. It is worthy of note that all passenger planes must have their radio in shipshape order or else they remain grounded.

Air radio services for aviation may be divided, roughly, into three classes:

- (1) Communication to and from planes.
- (2) Direction finding.
- (3) Meteorological reports handled by point-to-point communications systems.

Considering the first of these classifications, namely, two-way communication, it should be noted that up to this time European aviation has made only the intermediate frequencies, in restricted amounts, to contrast to the current use of high frequencies, as short waves which are used in the United States. Europe employs frequencies from 300 to 500 kc. (1,000 to 600 m.) for its flying services, the American band has 1,500 to 7,000 kc. (200 to 45 m.).

Congestion often leads to interference on

European aeronautical radio channels, but this has been overcome to some extent by a careful system of classification and control in the use of each channel. On the whole, radio service on the intermediate frequencies is on a thoroughly reliable basis for passenger flights that are run on regular schedules, although my own observation is that the high frequency or short wave bands offer more "elbow room" for interference-free operation.

Similar two-way communication between ground and plane will soon be furnished along the greater part of the airways of the United States. However, as I have indicated, American aviation has explored these frequencies early, starting when the state was clear, and in using the short waves we will not encounter the inherent disadvantages of the earlier established European systems.

Considering the second of the foregoing classifications, direction-finding for aircraft, Europe again presents a different picture. While in America the trend has been toward the development and establishment of radio course beacons of the aural and visual type, designed to guide the pilot along fixed routes, the tendency in Europe has been toward the establishment of the direction-finding stations on the ground. These stations are similar in those used by sea-going vessels which in this country obtain position reports from our naval coastal stations in the United States.

In other words, we attempt to guide the pilot directly by means of course signals which tell him whether he is on or off a true course, while the Europeans try to guide the pilot by taking bearings on his position from signals emanating from his transmitter and then transmitting back to him the proper instructions.

The direction-finding system has many advantages. A pilot is doubtful of position because of darkness or fog needs only to call the control station of the ground area over which he is flying, in two or three minutes, by a system of cross-bearings, his position with respect to a given geographic point will have been reduced back. This



A flight photograph of Le Bourget Field, Paris, France

position, calculated correctly, is usually correct within two or three kilometers.

The following are the systems of control stations for direction-finding over the various air routes of Europe:

For Zaglad—Croyden to the control station, with stations at Fulham and Lympne for cross bearings.

For France—Lille/Boulogne to the control station, with Lympne and Valenciennes operating for cross-bearings.

For the Germany-Belgium route—Brussels to the control station, with Valenciennes and Rotterdam operating for cross-bearings.

For the Holland-Germany route—Rotterdam acts as the control station, with Fulham and Brussels operating for cross-bearings.

All reports between airports are handled on the frequency of 333.3 kc. (900 m.) which is also the direction-finding wave. In England and Holland, the Bellini-Toscani system, so called for its inventors, is used. It consists of two fixed loops whose turns are at right angles, installed on the roof of the control building. Concentric wires extend from these loops to a galvanometer operated in the receiving station. This galvanometer is simply a miniature cross-loop arrangement having two lower concentric loops within larger exterior ones and attached to a revolving shaft. The small loops can be rotated to obtain the same effect as though the large crossed loops on the outside of the building were themselves revolved.

The Germans and French prefer to use the rotating loop system, in which the loops themselves are rotated directly. Positions may be given as a true bearing in degrees if requested by the pilot, instead of in kilometers from a given point.

The range of most of the transmitting stations on the ground is such that they are able to transmit and receive continuously up to 250 mi. in daylight and at night the direction-finding signals up to a distance of 150 mi. German planes also report bearing Croyden when they are flying over Dusseldorf, more than 1,000 mi. away.

It should be noted that the direction-finding impulses are the waves carrying the code from the plane; that there is no need of a special signal. By a system of triangulation with the cross-bearings stations, the precise location of the plane can be plotted. Direction-finding is not uncommon on American airways even today.

The direction-finding system is international, and the same procedure is used all over Europe. Its details are worked out by the so-called International Air Conference (Conférence Aéronautique Internationale) which meets twice a year, usually in the spring before the season's flying season begins and in the fall before the winter season ends.

The governments send unofficial delegates. The conferences are purely advisory, yet so great is the mutual interest in a uniform system that the regulations that come down go inevitably have a bond of moral if not legal force. The following nations participate: Great Britain, France, Belgium, Holland, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Saar Territory, and Switzerland. There are also informal conferences from time to time between Germany, Holland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden, affecting matters of mutual interest.

With respect to the third of the classifications, i.e., point-to-point services for meteorological reports and inter-airport traffic data, it is interesting to note that practically all transmissions are on the low frequency, or long waves, from 150 to 250 kc. (2,000 to 1,360 m.).

Meteorological reports are handled, (as in this country by the Department of Commerce through broadcasting stations), as periodical broadcasts. Each city is a network is assigned a definitely scheduled hour of transmission, during which time it sends its synoptic messages. It must remain silent during the broadcasts from others in the net.

These messages are sent out "broadcast," which means that they are picked up all over Europe simultaneously by the various receiving points and that an acknowledgment of reception need be sent back. The synoptic messages themselves are in the regular meteorological code, so that they can be handled expeditiously and with as little time as possible wasted in superfluous courtesies.

WHILE the use of high frequencies, or short waves, is developing fast in Europe's commercial radiotelegraphic systems, very little progress in their use in aviation can be reported. Most of the meteorological point-to-point stations, which I have had, but installed, are without installing, high frequency transmission of an experimental character. These were intended to be operated simultaneously with the regular low frequency sets, but they were not expected to supplant the low frequency sets for some time.

In fact, considerable surprise was expressed by various aviation operators when I mentioned the fact that commercial aviation radio in the United States was being developed primarily with the high frequencies, and that the Federal Radio Commission even assigned as high a frequency as 3,106 kc. (96.5 m.) as the national calling and working frequency for aircraft.

Besides the regular direction-finding services from the ground, I observed some progress, notably in Germany, in the use of direction-finding apparatus on board the plane themselves. These, however, were working in the intermediate frequency bands. The Deutsche Versuchsanstalt für Luftfahrt (German Aeronautical Testing Institution) has been conducting tests for short wave direction-finding which may later justify high frequency equipment on board.

The handling of radio traffic between ground and plane has been developed to a highly efficient state in Europe. American operating companies which are only one building up their radio systems might study this phase of European aviation radio to advantage. Even where intercontinental frequencies are employed, resulting in some crowding and in a flat prohibition upon messages of minor importance, the radio traffic is speedily and expeditiously handled.

For commercial control and operation, as I have stated, the present conditions that are prevailing are considered and can then be handled under efficient, unified control.

On the other hand, as in all government operations, the tendency toward individual initiative and progress seems to have been somewhat retarded in Europe. It certainly requires a longer time to make technical advances in the art, and there is a certain slowness about experimenting or displacing older methods and equipment with new developments that are more efficient.

It is apparent that American commercial aviation is ahead of the rest of the world in the use of high frequency for aircraft communication. If the plan worked out by the Federal Radio Commission and the other government departments in cooperation with the commercial operators fulfills expectations, the American system will, undoubtedly, be used by the rest of the world as a guide and model upon which to base similar developments.

TO GAIN public acceptance of air transport equipment must be kept in a condition which is on a perceptible degree short of perfection. If the equipment of a transport system, air or otherwise, is properly maintained it is possible to operate in schedule, to give public confidence and build up patronage, to hold costs to a minimum, and to earn a profit. The problem is squarely up to the individual in charge of operations, and his service department. An examination into some of the servicing methods employed by a group of typical transport operators of the Western states is most instructive.

It is the contention of many aircraft operators that by thoughtful replacement of worn parts, no plane or engine need be worn out in service, the chief reason factor at the present time being obsolescence. For instance, planes operated by Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc. have down from 1,700 to 1,505 hr. prior to major overhaul and have then been completely re-conditioned and modernized and placed back in service promptly on a par with equipment just out of the factory. Several Boeing 40-B mail planes have been flown more than 3,000 hr. and are still flying. Douglas mail planes operated by Western Air Resources have reached a total of 2,600 hrs. of flying time and tri-engine Fokkers have been flown a total of as much as 2,365 hr. and are still in active service. Liberty engines operated by this company have flown up to 2,100 hr. and Pratt & Whitney Waspas to more than 2,340 hr. and are still in service. There is, however, with much experience to be gained in this phase of maintenance and it is probable that certain parts and units will have to be discarded after a certain period of life as a precaution against failure within the margins of the use.

Careful routine servicing has eliminated the engine "top overhaul" in the Transcontinental and Western Air

ORGANIZING AIRLINE MAINTENANCE

There is no more vital part of an air transport enterprise than its maintenance system and the quality of this work often spells success or failure for the entire venture. Reliability is more important in the air than in any other form of transportation and can be achieved only by the most rigid maintenance methods. The accompanying article is the result of a study of the systems of several western operators.

shops and makes it possible to run engines through between major overhauls with very little work and attention other than routine servicing. Periods between major overhaul of engines have reached as high as 500 hr. or more on some lines. Another significant factor in engine maintenance is that the engines are more reliable after their first 200 hr. of service if adequate maintenance methods are used. The reason is that cumulative knowledge of the performance and idiosyncrasies of each engine which is gained by the service shop as a result of actual operation makes it possible to anticipate trouble.

If it is necessary to devise a program of work to be done which will guarantee that on part of the plane or engine will fail to receive necessary attention. In order to accomplish this a highly specialized system of labor is needed. These men must provide for preliminary inspection of the plane in order to determine what work must be done, must ensure that a final inspection



Next servicing order was in the Washington service with Libbyman Yarnall, Los Angeles of Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc.

tion as will guarantee that all necessary work has been done, and must, when properly followed and filled out, give all personnel additional information at all times to everyone concerned. The forms should be such that every operation can be traced to the man performing it, thus fixing the responsibility for every move made. They should make it possible to enter all data necessary to the proper servicing of the plane whether that data be submitted at the main repair base, an intermediate depot, or in the air itself. Finally, these forms must be specialized to apply to the individual types of planes and engines under consideration.

In general the routine inspection sheet and work form followed by the individual mechanic is laid out to cover the entire plane, including its engines, and it also usually provides for the flight report on the same sheet. There are some lines which prefer a separate flight card, filled out and filed separately. Some also use a more highly detailed form which first fills the plane and each engine on a separate sheet. It is common practice to use a special form for radio equipment, another for inspection of antennas, and still another for the passenger cabin interior. Practically all forms are so arranged that the mechanic can check items which require attention and the individual workman can list the items when his work has been completed.

When a combination routine sheet and flight report is used the co-pilot is usually charged with the task of preserving the report during the flight and turning it in to the service crew chief at the end of the run. When the routine inspection sheet does not accompany the plane a copy of the pilot's flight report goes to the crew chief and he makes appropriate notations on the routine work sheet. In any case the crew chief or an inspector makes a detailed inspection of the plane after each run aims all routine and special servicing work to be done, and then, as completed, is indicated by the mechanic opposite the designation of work to be done. The sheet is signed by the crew chief after work is completed and he has made his final inspection, and is signed upon by the pilot upon acceptance of the plane after he has inspected it and satisfied himself that it is ready for flight. Thus there is a definite fixing of responsibility and a threefold check upon the plane before it is again placed in service.

In assigning the work on a plane it is customary for the crew chief or chief inspector to confer with the chief engineer or representative of maintenance, depending upon the form of shop organization in vogue. If all work is routine it is usually done without delay, but if work of a special nature must be performed it is customary to consider the various factors involved in order to determine whether to bring in an emergency

crew and perform the work at once, temporarily withdrawing the plane from service, or, if the defect is a minor one, postpone the repair until the end of the service in order to better fit the work into the service schedule. In any case these factors are considered with each plane and an outline of work to be done during the night is ready for the night foreman when he comes on duty. It may be said that most air transport systems now perform the bulk of servicing work at night. When the night foreman arrives on duty he confers with the chief engineer or superintendent, as the case may be, and together they outline a complete program of work for the night crew. In order that there not be so confusion in organizing and assigning work it has become common practice to make all orders written rather than verbal. Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., provides special forms upon which to write all shop orders of any sort, even the most minor instruction.

There are two practices which are universal procedure with the major transport lines. The first is to keep equipment perfectly clean at all times in order to facilitate inspection. The second is to require that all mechanics consider themselves as inspectors also and constantly look for hidden flaws or defects.

The system of routine work forms used by Boeing Air Transport and by Pacific Air Transport, each a unit of the United Aircraft and Transport Corporation, is significant in that they are so amplified and consolidated that more than the ordinary responsibility for proper servicing is placed on the shoulders of the individual mechanic and crew chief. Pacific Air Transport uses a combined maintenance and flight report record sheet which is filed out in triplicate, one copy being filed at the point of departure, one at point of destination, and the original at the head office for master

records and pilot's payroll account. Routine work and inspection forms used by Boeing Air Transport differ somewhat from those of Pacific Air Transport. A daily engine inspection report is filled out in duplicate and the pilot's flight record and report is kept on a separate card. One copy of the routine form is kept in the plane's log book and the other copy is filed with the main office after completion of the work listed. Aside from the tabulating of work done as signatures are required on this sheet except that of the pilot accepting the plane.

Some special problems of servicing have been met by Air Ferries, Inc., operating a short-haul service across San Francisco Bay with Landing amphibious. Although this service is quite unique the planes it uses are distinctly different than those used on the Boeing line. Air Ferries has found it good practice to use a service form almost identical with that used by Boeing Air Transport. Air Ferries planes are in service each day from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., flying on a 20-min. schedule over a route 6 mi. long with a trip flying time of but 5 to 8 min. This requires each plane to make from 30 to 70 landings per day, half of which are on the runways of San Francisco Bay Airbase and the other half on the surface of San Francisco Bay, opposite the Ferry building. The water landings are often quite rough and the planes, due by climbing out upon a special floating dock under their own power. These conditions impose a very exceptional strain upon the engine, which must operate at maximum r.p.m. a large portion of the time.

In spite of these adverse factors it has been found practicable to keep the planes in service regularly by proper organization of the service department. Night servicing was first tried but it has been found to be better practice to service all equipment during the day, leaving the planes to sit during and after hours. This practice provides a full service crew at all times during operating hours in case emergency repairs must be made on a plane in service.

One of the major servicing items is that of giving each plane a thorough washing with soap and water after each operating period. After washing the planes are polished dry and all exterior surfaces are then rubbed down with Calbi polishing oil. Such treatment sends the planes out for each run with a fresh film of protecting oil and greatly lessens the deteriorating effect of contact with salt water. Other special measures of protection are to treat all exposed metal parts with waterproof machine grease and to paint all exposed wires with an asphaltum base paint. Special attention is paid to lubrication and valves are greased is changed every 30 hr. Spark plugs are changed also due to the shortening effect of salt crystallization from the salt water spray.

Some trouble results from water and small pieces of driftwood damaging the fabric on the underside of the lower wing panels, particularly close to the fuselage where water from the hull heads up against the wing, and it has been found necessary frequently to replace the covering on this portion of the wing.

Throughout all Air Ferries servicing, high-speed tools have been used wherever possible in order to speed servicing operations and place equipment back in service with minimum delay.

Service forms employed by T.A.T.-Maddux Airlines, now consolidated with Western Air Express as T.A.T.-Transcontinental and Western Air, Inc., are quite similar to those used by Pacific Air Transport. All T.A.T.-

Maddux forms have applied directly to the servicing of Ford planes and the routine sheet carried two main columns, one devoted to work and inspection of engines and the other to the plane.

In connection with this maintenance sheet the T.A.T.-Maddux shop, at Grand Central Air Terminal, western division base, operating a large variety of black-and-white Ford planes, has a vertical column of every plane and engine in use. In a vertical column at the left of the board were listed all planes in service, and opposite each plane listed there was a space for recording data on each of its three engines. A horizontal column extended across the board from each plane and engine listed giving in order the following data: time since overhaul of engine, daily time, date of last oil change and cleaning of oil system, date of greasing rocker arms, date when magnos were checked and date when valves were checked, date when pushrods were greased, propeller time to date, date of inspecting and cleaning fuel tanks and strainers, hours since spark plugs were changed, date when engine was changed, date of inspecting landing gear. This board was kept up to date from day to day to provide the mechanic with information at a glance as the amount of servicing which had been given any particular unit. The entire shop has been moved from Grand Central Air Terminal to a new quarters terminal of T. & W. A. and this black-board system is being continued at the new location.

Service procedure as followed by the western division of T.A.T.-Maddux Airlines was fairly typical of other organizations operating all-weather planes. The major portion of engine and necessary servicing is the same for most planes as for comparison of the composite or Fokker type. The chief point of difference is in the manner of inspecting and methods of repairing the all-metal structure and covering. This requires the operation of a complete wheel shop, which is the case of T.A.T.-Maddux shops. The shop covering the airframe and the Ford airplanes is complete, the major reason for the major fuselage of wing tips. This shop has been enlarged somewhat under the recent merger.

In addition to engine overhaul, shop equipment and metal shop equipment, the normal servicing equipment maintained by the multi-plane department at T. & W. A. consists of a complete stock room, tractors for shifting flying equipment, five movable work stands, a dorm assigned shop bidders built especially for working on Ford planes, two Ford jacks, one oil bender, and two battery-charging units. Under the T. & W. A. merger the equipment of both companies has been somewhat consolidated in the interests of efficiency.

When operating at the Grand Central Air Terminal base all Ford planes were serviced at night, being fasted at the gasoline pit on the service line before going into the hangar for servicing, and then being completely greased and oiled by the night crew apparatus. All oil changing, checking of valves, greasing of roller arms, cleaning of oil strainers, magnos and engines, testing of flywheels, tires, wheels, and controls, and any necessary engine changes were performed by the night crew. Each morning a flying test was given each plane before it was placed on the line as being ready for service. In order that all shop equipment might be efficiently utilized, repair and overhaul work was sometimes planned for the hangar at night, in which case the engine overhaul or metal shop crew would be held over. All mechanics were assigned numbers and they placed these numbers,



One of the special adjustable test servicing stands developed by Transcontinental and Western Air in the Brooklyn service unit. The plane is a Fokker F-28.

FROM HANGAR TO BOULEVARD

By R. Stuart Murray

Some airplane sales suggestions
from the yacht broker and the cus-
tom-built automobile distributor



"The salesman who is most successful in selling a motor car is the one who is most 'friendly' than 'sales' person."

WITHIN the past two years several of the larger aviation corporations established airplane showrooms on various strategic boulevards of our larger American cities, believing that by bringing the product within easy reach of the man in the street, they would increase their sales.

Several of these showrooms were truly magnificent—and indeed could well be described as "palaces," yet—back of the alabaster and beautiful surroundings, not even to be seen some very substantial products in the form of airplanes—few of these organizations have had the foresight to equip themselves with a type of those salesman who by experience is qualified to understand and put into effect the "technique" of these room sales in the price range of the airplanes offered.

To illustrate let us make a few comparisons. Taken as airplane as a transport vehicle at a cost of \$18,000-25,000, let us compare its sales possibilities with (a) the imported motor car of the same price and (b) the custom-built automobile value. All of these commodities are now offered for public consideration through the medium of metropolitan show rooms. All of these three forms of vehicular transportation, due to required care and built-in quality, are manufactured on a small production basis, because of the demand and in most instances for semi-custom-built features.

In the case of the imported motor car, the purchaser, by necessity a man of wealth, makes his selection and purchases a foreign built motor car solely because of its price and due to its distinctive character, he is assured of having an "individual" car and an outward sign of his affluence. Very few people who buy these cars are willing to pay \$10,000 more than the cost of the finest domestic cars solely because they believe them more aesthetically perfect. In the selection of such a car the purchaser is guided by further personal requirements, such as speed, power, riding qualities and body design. In no case does the element of commercial utility enter into his consideration, as in some cases a sub-merged desire to "put on the air" for business reasons is apparent.

Secondly, we will consider the yacht—day cruiser—

or motorboat. Again the commercial usefulness of the vehicle has no bearing on the sale, although as a medium of entertainment it is continually used for indirect business purposes.

Now we shall consider the airplane. At the start, it is apparent that the plane has one vitally outstanding sales argument not possessed by its sister vehicles of land and water. It can be most successfully used for straight commercial purposes of transportation and entertainment. It can serve also as a medium of pleasure. From a strictly commercial point of view the problem of sales has been covered numberless times by adequate articles on the subject. In my opinion the presence of an "in town" showroom is of much material help in getting the busy executive to look the plane over. The presentation is going to the ever busy airport is one of the present obstacles in getting the prospect who is not personally sold to see the airplane. The airplane showroom has no more handicaps than those of the motorboat and speedboat.

In support of this, let us review the life of the average Mr. X., with whom we must expect to do business. We will find him efficient. In his business life he is an important executive of one or more large industrial or commercial organizations. He is in his forties—well young and active socially and in business. In his off hours he has, for years enjoyed yachting in season, and in his daily travel he uses the finest car that his position proportionately entitles him to have. He has a town home and a country estate. He is a chairman and a sportsman. For recreation and for pleasure

he does considerable entertaining. He is accustomed to paying in cash for what he buys and demands exactly what he wants. He has become accustomed to owning, using and maintaining automotive vehicles and the maintenance cost does not alarm him.

For the simple reason that the aircraft industry has not known how to appeal to Mr. X., the distribution of some of our largest aircraft manufacturers is now in the hands of experienced and long established sales brokers, who thoroughly do understand him.

Yacht cruises or daytrips are not mentioned to sell in their respective lines—they only demonstrate when the time is ripe—leaving the salesman free to discuss with his customer.

The salesman should be one who is capable of conducting himself in any social or business circle. He should in appearance and manner be a gentleman, meet those with whom he will personally deal with pleasure, with a few exceptions. He should be a convincing conversationalist and must stand ready to "sell" even to the layman's weakness of his prospect's family.

He should be capable of discreetly ascertaining his prospect's business travel requirements and his social and sports habits. He should be capable of giving up an inquiry and ascertaining quickly the value of the apparent casual inquiry. Since he is dealing with an individualistic class, he should be sure, he is capable of individualistic sales. He will gain his customer's confidence immediately if he offers—He can talk the same language grammatically and logically.

If his particular bent is in making and developing contacts he should be encouraged in that field—and the sales manager should assume the brunt of handling the actual clients. Since much of the salesman's work will

necessarily entail social contact in one form or another, he should be allowed to maintain the social platform of relations with his prospects. Some excellent contact men are poor salesmen—and vice versa.

And what of the sales manager? He, in a few words should be primarily a psychologist and should be chosen from a list of successful foreign car or public sales managers. He should not be accustomed to the fast pace of cheap car sales. He should be a good character and a sales strategist—a tactician capable of using the assets that may only appear between the lines of his salesman's reports.

Mr. X. has an important younger angel when we will call Mr. Y. In this latter case many angles are comparable with his senior but Mr. Y. being young enough to participate in the more active sports himself, will attach more division in flying himself—for business or for pleasure. He is the young business executive who is in a position to influence his income in many progressive decisions. He and Mr. X. are the business men whom we must address currently at this time instead of the feeble public-at-large. The reasons are twofold. Both of these men are vital to us now. They buy our stocks, patronize our stores, buy our shares and consume our accessories. They are our only market of today because, as in the early days of the motor car, they represented the only class that could seriously afford the possession of an automobile and all that went with it.

There will be heard complaint of the airplane sales manager—"we've got against it because we can't wheel a demonstrator up to the door" is obviously weak. The boating industry has always had the same problem. They counteract it by efficient "lifts" taking to the sales and interest the prospect. If he is judged a valid one, to the point where the boat steps—a demonstration, is not only inspired to him but actually desired. The salesman's knowledge of competitive ships must be complete, but he must not create an impression that he is a man—a different or more "driven" than his prospect.

Again the argument is put that boat sales are easy because "everybody will ride in a boat." Permit me to say that only of very recent years has the boating industry been able to sell boats as a part of salesmanship. When the first V-bottomed, high-powered speed boats appeared we had to sell safety. We had to convince people that the day of the old rowing-boated boat that rocked on the slightest provocation was over—and that it was at last possible to speed along at 40 to 50 m.p.h. on fairly rough water without any chance of the boat turning over. We had our hands full getting the more mature members of the fair sex, who often had a grip on the gunwale strings, to ride in a boat.

High-power salesmen have no place in the aircraft industry where public contact is to be made. Rather they should be of the young, sensitive class, as a driving account basis with ample opportunity to earn at least \$10,000 a year. The man selected should be chosen with this figure as their minimum personally required income. Every airplane sales room should have a technically trained pilot on hand, despite the prospect be interested in discussing the technical features. Glides all conditions the primary factors are in supplying a sales personnel adequate to the type of clientele aviation must depend upon for some years to come.



"Study of current prices has the boating industry been able to convert from a job of sales resistance."

ENGINE SERVICING AND SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

By Kenneth J. Boedecker

General Service Manager
Wright Aeronautical Corporation

The problem of engine maintenance is ever present to every aircraft operator, whether he be doing his own work or turning it over to a service station. For the small operator, in fact, the question of the length to which he can profitably go in installing his own servicing equipment is a constantly perplexing one. This article is written from a long experience with engines in the field and in the shop, and from observation of all the life to which they can fall heir. The author naturally draws his particular illustrations from his own experience with Wright engines, but his general conclusions will apply to any established type.

ACTUAL servicing of aircraft engines begins at the factory, for every engine is subjected to a period of running of from four to six hours at gradually increasing power, the last two hours being run at nine-tenths rated load, which is well in excess of the normal load at cruising speed. After this run, each engine is completely dis-assembled, thoroughly washed, and minutely inspected for possible flaws. It is then rebuilt and again placed on the test stand for its final test, which consists of a one-hour warm-up period, then one-half hour at nine-tenths rated power and one-half hour at full rated power. During this time the engine is carefully inspected for oil leaks, gasoline consumption, oil temperature and compression. If any of these items do not come within specifications, the error is corrected and as additional run made to check the correction. As soon as the engine has satisfactorily passed its final test it is sent to the shipping room, where it is given a thorough outside inspection that corresponds quite closely to the regular periodical inspection of engines in actual service required by the Department of

Commerce, that is, the oil strainers are removed, cleaned and inspected; camshaft and chains in camshaft and closed, rocker bearings checked, clearance between rocker rollers and valve stems checked, spark plugs inspected, magneto points and magneto synchronization checked, safety wires and locks checked throughout, and tightness of all bolts and nuts checked. The engine is then checked with oil to prevent rust, and packed for shipment.

It is implied above that all aircraft engines are subjected to the foregoing tests and inspections, but this statement should be qualified. All Wright and Curtiss engines are treated in this way, and others are undoubtedly tested in a very similar fashion.

The servicing or complete overhaul of engines after their normal 300 hr. of operation is closely akin to the tear-down inspection and subsequent test which every new engine receives. Of course, during the 300 hr. of operation, there must be many service inspections to insure uninterrupted and smooth running and these matters will be taken up in a subsequent paragraph. The 300 hr. of normal operation may be likened to the original six-hour test of the new engine, the tear-down inspection and final acceptance test after that amount of running and a major overhaul being identical to that for the new engine. The tear-down inspection, overhaul, and test may be done at the authorized service station or at the repair base of an operator. In any case it should closely follow factory procedure and great care should be exercised in keeping all parts free from dust and dirt throughout the period that individual parts are undergoing inspection and re-assembly. Individual rubbing parts must be large enough to accommodate all of the parts of the particular engine being inspected, should be available. As the engine is torn down, the parts should be carefully distributed on the parts rack and upon complete dis-assembly, rolled to the work stand. Care should be taken to note any unusual condition of the parts as the engine is being torn down and prior to making. Unusual conditions should be called to the attention of the inspector. After washing all parts with a gasoline spray the parts rack should be rolled to the inspector who should inspect each part, making notes of its exact condition and stating whether or not the part should be replaced. Inspection is made in strict accordance with the clearance charts and table of limits which appear in all Wright instruction manuals. Micrometer measure-



The official overhaul shop of Caudron Flying Service at Memphis, Tenn. Aeronautical mechanics are at the right, writing benches left; and stock cases window in the rear.

ments are made throughout to determine all clearances. In the case of factory overhauls the "Maximum Allowable Wear" values is disregarded and all parts are brought within manufacturing limits. The accompanying sheets show the inspection forms used by the Wright Aeronautical Corporation's service division. Similar forms are used by most authorized service stations. An exception, such as magneto, starter, and carburetor, should be turned over to a specialist for checking and repair. After overhaul has been completed, the accessories should be returned to the proper parts rack. The inspector should remove from the parts rack any parts which are not fit for further use, note a requisition for necessary replacement parts and deliver the parts rack to the assemblers either with the new parts or the requisition covering them. The audit parts should be tagged with the engine number, owner's name, and reason for rejection and held for customer's inspection or information, and disposition. It should be unnecessary to hold rejected parts longer than thirty days.

This engine, when re-assembled, should be placed on the test stand and given the final acceptance test unless it has been necessary to replace major parts, in which case sufficient time should be made to inspect the replacements. If such time disturbs timing or involves possible oil leaks a short check run should be made to determine that everything is satisfactorily adjusted.

Too much stress cannot be laid on the matter of keeping dis-assembled parts in neat order and free from dirt and rust, because there is nothing that causes loss of confidence in a repair depot as much as seeing parts strewn here and there, exposed to grit and dirt, and the moving up of parts belonging to one engine with those of another. It makes little difference whether such things are seen by engine owners visiting a service station or a transport line passengers viewing a repair depot, the result is the same—namely, loss of confidence in any work performed at the disassembly repair shop.

It is gratifying to note that the majority of repair shops are actually cleaning houses and are performing a far more respectable appearance than hives. Those bases which do not follow this example will find it necessary here to close their doors, since aircraft owners and passengers will not patronize service stations of transport lines that tolerate carelessness in any degree.

Three sub-divisions may be considered and these will be on the commercial side, although many military uses closely parallel the commercial ones. Stunt flying and racing will not be considered.

First, there is the service that requires full-throttle running close to the ground with frequent starts and stops, as in crop dusters and kindred contrivances.

Second, the service which, due to anticipated equipment, requires almost full throttle operation in random schedules set by the increasing demands for faster transportation.

Third, the service which is possible with up-to-date aircraft which have been designed to give the desired cruising speed at a normal throttle opening, allowing plenty of excess power, in case of emergency.

The effect of poor fuel and oils on the servicing and life of an engine in full under all conditions noted above but to a more detailed degree in cases one and two.

In the first case it is quite necessary to give very frequent attention to the change in oil, checking of tappet clearances, cylinder compressions, spark plugs, magneto points and cleaning of oil screens. If low grade fuel and oil are used or if the engine is run in bad conditions, serious engine difficulties are almost bound to ensue. Even with high grade fuel and the use of full rich mixture setting (the mixture should never be leaned out as this kind of service) engines being used in such service should receive a careful check every 10 hr., a top overhaul every 100 hr. and complete overhaul every 300 hr. Operators of this kind are the hardest to which an engine can be subjected because of the frequent heating and cooling of the engine while flying wide open close to the ground and the quite sudden shutting off of the engine while the plane is being re-loaded with gasoline, fuel and oil.

The second case is almost as hard on an engine as is the first case, except that there is less variation in engine temperature because there is less starting and stopping and the operation is generally carried on at higher and cooler altitudes. After the use of the mixture control is less apt to cause overheating of the cylinders and the possible burning of valves, pistons or cylinders and the sticking of piston rings. As in the first case, there is great danger that the use of low grade fuels and oils will lessen the possibility of the troubles mentioned above. Engines subjected to such operation should receive a careful check including oil change every 30 hr.,

a top overhaul every 125 hr. and a complete overhaul every 250 hr.

Engines which are covered by the third pact, while not being subjected to the easiest conditions known, are not abused as are the engines in the first two pacts mentioned. As a rule such operations require that the engine be run at wide open throttle only at the time of taking off—reducing the engine speed gradually as the flying speed increases and finally setting the throttle to give an engine speed of approximately seven or eight-twentieths of its rated speed. Low grade fuels and oils are not as detrimental to engine life in such operations but nevertheless should be shunned. A great deal of damage can be caused by low grade fuels and oils during the few minutes of full throttle running for take-off and climb to altitude in normal operations. Engines in the third of operations should receive a careful check including oil change at least every 30 hr., a top overhaul every 150 hr., and a complete overhaul every 300 hr.

It is quite true that the majority of aircraft engines which are being built today by the various manufacturers will operate satisfactorily with less frequent checking and for greater periods between top overhauls and complete overhauls than has been indicated above, but owners and operators are too prone to extend the checking and overhaul periods to dangerous limits, only because the engine is operating satisfactorily and has given no indication of needing attention. Many complete engine "walk-outs" could have been prevented, had proper attention been paid to systematic and frequent checks, top overhauls, and complete overhauls. Such overhauls are the best insurance against disaster or expensive damage.

In many cases the engine owner or operator eagerly demands that the manufacturer supply a new engine or

rebuild the damaged engine gratis. The trouble may have been caused by any one of several conditions or a combination of conditions such as poor lubrication, poor fuel with resulting detonation and excessive heating, poor maintenance or abuse by the pilot. Proper checks, top overhauls and complete overhauls at regular intervals will generally bring to light any defects or maladjustments which can easily be corrected before any real damage is done. A twenty-hour check would bring to light lubricating valves, weak piston rings, poor spark plugs, foreign matter in oil (which would indicate that a more complete inspection is needed) and excessive friction. A top overhaul would bring to light any possible piston damage, indication that the lubrication is incorrect or indication that for some reason the pistons, valves and cylinders have been running too hot.

Most aircraft manufacturers are willing to assume responsibility for defective material and workmanship and will render an honest opinion as to the cause of failure. In the case of failure of Wright engines, if inspection at the place indicates that the cause is due to defective material or workmanship, and the failure has occurred during the warranty period, it is and always has been the policy of the company to make good at the place or through its distributor and service organization throughout the country or through its own field personnel, who are constantly covering the country visiting service stations, military aircraft bases, aircraft manufacturers, airline operators, and individual owners for the purpose of instructing mechanics in the maintenance and overhaul of Wright engines.

The company does not delegate to its service stations, distributors or service men, the right to make gratis replacements or render free service except in rare instances which are covered by special memoranda or service station bulletins. However, they are required to study impartially every complaint and if in their judgment the company is at fault, a full report is forwarded to the factory for its consideration. In cases where causes of failure are obvious to the company and are covered by warranties, immediate authorization is granted the service station to correct the difficulty at the expense of the company. The service station is advised through the distributor for the material cost, upon receipt and subsequent inspection of the replaced parts. Where a doubt as to the cause of difficulties exists in the mind of the service station manager, or if he is thoroughly convinced that the difficulties are no fault of the company, it is required that he assume full responsibility for the solution of the problem from the customer. Should there be a legitimate complaint from the customer as to charges for labor or parts, the matter should be taken up with the distributor under whom the service station is operating. The distributor may in turn take up the matter with the company for final decision. If an adjustment is in order, it will be made through the distributor and service station to the customer.

Service stations have been granted franchises for the purpose of rendering immediate service to owners of Wright engines in their vicinity and to relieve the factory, which is presently a production organization, of the necessity for maintaining a large service unit. Concurrent with the development of approximately 80 service stations throughout the country the factory service unit has been gradually cut down and is merely a skeleton organization and is not prepared to handle

Figure 1 of Wright service inspection report, indicating results of final inspection of engine.

outside service work. It is maintained primarily as a research laboratory to investigate and correct unknown difficulties which may appear in actual service operation, and only enough overhaul work is taken in to keep the highly trained personnel in actual contact with unusual or extraordinary conditions. These men are retained between actual work and service shop work and are frequently available for transfer to the periphery of authorized service stations or operators using Wright engines and who maintain overhaul shops of their own. In order that engine owners receive the quickest service possible in a wilderness case, it is suggested that they have the nearest authorized service station perform their maintenance and overhaul work. Each service station is required to carry a stock of genuine Wright parts and the necessary tools to perform complete service on models that are in general use, to maintain competent personnel, to conduct repairs in their vicinity for the purpose of offering their advice and experience in the proper maintenance of engines, to be courteous to customers and to maintain neat quarters. Failure to comply with the foregoing requires is sufficient cause for cancellation of franchise. The service station is responsible for his own workmanship and in upholding the name of Wright in its community. Each service station is appointed by the distributor in whose territory he is located, with the approval of the manufacturer.

The distributor of engine parts must always maintain a most complete authorized service station and is fully responsible for his own workmanship and must carry a sufficient stock of parts to meet the requirements of any kind of service in his territory and he is also responsible for the appointment and guidance of service stations in his territory and is required to appoint service stations wherever sufficient business warrants. It is his duty to

see that the service stations in his territory carry sufficient spare parts to complete normal overhauls of engines or that parts can be supplied soon enough to prevent any delay whatever in an overhaul. The distributor, with the approval of Wright, may cancel the contract of any service station that fails to live up to its franchise.

To augment the authorized service station a great many small or non-authorized operating firms should be well able to afford the installation of sufficient equipment to perform the major part of their complete overhauls and all of their top overhauls. The necessary overhaul stands, complete station tool kits, small coil guns, small speed lachs, valve grinder, wire wheel, wash stands, parts racks, and small miscellaneous tools should be procurable at a cost of between \$4,000 and \$6,000. Such an investment should readily pay for itself in reduced maintenance costs.

Through the courtesy of the Curtiss-Wright Flying Service (Memphis base) a typical overhaul shop is shown in the accompanying photograph on page 95. The assembly stands are seen on the right and on the left a working bench. At the far end of the room can be seen the stock room window which is very convenient. Just inside the stock room the tools for top overhaul are arranged on a board. On this board are arranged the tools for a top overhaul of Wright, Curtiss, and Pratt & Whitney engines.

The Wright Company maintains a school room and seminar at Paterson where at any time mechanics in the employ of owners or operators of Wright engines are welcome to receive instruction in the care and maintenance of these engines. There is no charge for this service but arrangements for enrollment are made directly between the employer and the service division.

Figure 3, showing details of problems reported of engine conditions on overhaul.

The engine engine inspection tool form as used by the Wright company.

THE PLACE OF PRESSURE DISTRIBUTION TESTS IN STRUCTURAL DESIGN

By Richard V. Rhode
*Aeronautical Engineer
National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics*

A GLANCE at any of the more recent surveys of the causes of airplane accidents will disclose that structural failures have been responsible for but a small proportion of such accidents. This immediately suggests that the structural design rests upon fairly solid foundations and implies that considerable improvement must have been made since the earlier days of the airplane. In our knowledge of the external loads coming into play on aircraft structures and of the properties of the materials used therein. This is true, but although these great advances have been made, and although structural integrity is only one of many elements which go to make up an airplane's safety, further improvement is not only desirable but necessary if weight is to be reduced to a minimum and confidence in the airplane is to become deep-rooted. How, then, are such improvements to be effected?

To begin with, the factors upon which the structural integrity depends must be examined. Here, of course, is the proper determination of the loading conditions which may be critical for the various sub-assemblies of the structure. In so far as the flight loads are concerned, this involves first of all a knowledge of the probable attitudes of the airplane with respect to the air and the ground and the probable speeds at these attitudes. From this knowledge the total loads can be determined. After this, the manner in which the total loads are distributed over the structure must be known. With these two factors recently established, the procurement of structural integrity devolves upon the strength and reliability of the materials of construction and the accuracy of the methods of stress analysis. While the importance of these last cannot be minimized, we will put them aside for the purpose of this article and consider only the second factor, viz., the determination of the manner in which the total load is distributed over the airplane.

In a large majority of cases, the designer does not concern himself with a detailed study of the pressure distribution, but accepts the specified load distribution found in the handbook. Usually he accepts this distribution without question, but at times with a sincere conviction that the handbook is wrong, especially when the

One of the most important and complete of the fundamental aerodynamic research problems of the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics is the investigation of pressure distribution or loading for various conditions of flight. The value of the data thus obtained to the structural engineer is immediately apparent. This work has been carried to virtually all parts of an airplane and has extended over a long period of time. In the present article Mr. Rhode discusses the significance of the results arrived at to date.

minimization of a given riding requires one or more unusually heavy members in the design. In such cases there is little recourse for the designer, since existing data are insufficient to justify a change in a rule which is frankly intended to be conservative. A good distribution of a rule of this kind in the one concerning tip loads, and more particularly the clause which requires 30 per cent to be added to the spar loading elements from the outer point of collection to the outer bay to the tip. The last that can be said for the specification in such cases is that they are not too far wrong. After all, the rules have been based in large part on the results of a few pressure distribution tests and ordinary force tests, none of which have been made in flight and most of which have been made in the wind tunnel. However, since these few tests, in the main, have been restricted in scope, they give but a general qualitative and rough quantitative picture of many of the important phenomena in which the designer should be interested. At present there is at least no general solution of this difficulty, since no comprehensive analysis of the rather

loosely-connected available information has been completed. Too, information is still lacking on many important questions.

The above is not intended to imply that progress is at a standstill. Studies of a number of phases of the problem of external loads are being made and elaborate tests are being conducted to extend our knowledge of these loads. Let us consider a few of the phenomena disclosed by some recent experiments of this kind and learn the nature of the information obtained. The tests conducted by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics on the PW-9 (Rhode, R. V., "The Pressure Distribution over the Wings and Tail Surfaces of the PW-9 Pursuit Airplane in Flight," NACA Technical Report) permit airplane people good examples.

THE object of the PW-9 tests was rather general and included the determination of the true correlation of the static and aerodynamic loads as well as the magnitude and distribution of the aerodynamic loads on the wing cells and tail surfaces. Since the PW-9 airplane, like most airplanes, is quite unbalanced and differs from its contemporaries in wing cell arrangement, wing plan form, tail characteristics, etc., pressure distribution tests on the airplane are not well adapted for use as a systematic study of the effects of changes in the shape and arrangement of aerodynamic surfaces. They are, however, distinctly useful in pointing out the more serious discrepancies between the present specified load distributions and those actually experienced. In addition, they give a good general picture of the phenomena associated with the maneuvers to which aerobatic airplanes may be subjected.

An interesting example of a factor having an important bearing on the distribution of load as disclosed by the PW-9 tests is the variability of a value in the wing. An examination of the data taken in a number of steady flight runs throughout a wide range of angle of attack brought to light that as the lower angles were approached, the distribution of load along the span of the upper wing tended to taper off rapidly toward the tip and the position of the center of pressure moved progressively farther back along the chord as the tip was approached. This was contrary to expectations, since wind-tunnel tests had indicated a general equality of load curves at all angles of attack and practically the same position of the center of pressure in per cent of chord at each station along the span for any given angle. This discrepancy gave rise to

tion would be expected in any case, although at low angles with the center of pressure well back, a large or small deflection may result, depending on whether the total load is large or small. Finally, since the root of the wing is more rigid with respect to the fuselage than the outer portion, this deflection takes on the aspect of twist with the tip at the lower incidence.

It is fairly obvious, from a consideration of Fig. 1, that a twist at the higher angles of attack does not reflect the lift distribution along the span appreciably, while at the lower angles a large proportional variation results.

If we assume, for purposes of illustration, that the lift distribution along the span for the untwisted wing is rectangular, and that the load at any section is proportional to the angle of attack of that section, then the reduction in load at the tip, when the tip, say, is at the root section, is AC_1/C_2 , a small value. On the other hand, the reduction of load at the tip at a low angle such as α^1 is AC_1^1/C_2^1 , a relatively large value. At the lower angles, too, the center of pressure moves rapidly with the angle of attack so that not only is the load distribution along the span affected, but also that along the chord.

Actually, the determination of the true effect of twist is rather more involved than the above discussion would indicate, although the results are qualitatively the same.

In Fig. 2 is shown the effect of 3 deg. washout on the PW-9 upper wing at the angle of attack corresponding to level flight at maximum speed. Curve "A" is representative of the distribution of load at a high angle of attack in which the effect of twist is negligible. Curve "B" is the measured distribution at an angle of attack of the root section of 4.5° (absolute), corresponding to



The PW-9 situation, in which extensive pressure distribution tests have been made in actual flight by the National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics.

maximum speed, and curve "C" the load distribution decreased from the root. It is at once apparent that in the low angle of attack design condition there is a considerable difference between the assumed span load distribution and that actually obtained in flight on this airplane. While this difference may be a conservative or non-conservative factor, depending upon the influence of other variables in the load distribution and the type of stresses employed, it is evident that the truth, whether a built or rigidly fixed wing or a torsional deflection under load, must be a matter for



Fig. 3

the POC-4). It is reasonable to expect that under the conditions of rib loading shown in Fig. 4, which is typical near zero lift, there would result a distortion of the Clark Y airfoil toward the M-6 form with a corresponding reduction in C_L and hence tail load. The wing deflection may be appreciable as witnessed by the fact that trailing edge failures are known to have occurred in fast dives on some airplanes.

TO RETURN to our main subject, it has already been noted in Fig. 2 that the load curve measured at a high angle of attack is in good agreement with the assumed load curve for the PW-9 upper wing. This is also true of the lower wing. Two effects enter in, however, which tend to have the combined and actual stresses out of disagreement. One of these is a difference between the center of pressure position assumed in the design (determined from monoplane tests in the wind tunnel) and the position measured on the biplane upper wing in flight. Fig. 5 shows the outline of the PW-9 upper wing with the center of pressure locus as measured at maximum

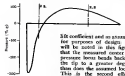


Fig. 4

since the first is essentially a phenomenon caused by the superposition of two airfoils, or biplane arrangement, while the second is caused by tip shape. The result of these two effects on the PW-9 airplane is to produce a front spar load curve which differs from the design load curve as shown in Fig. 6. As a sample illustration of the importance of such a difference in span loads, a primary bending moment diagram is given in Fig. 7 which speaks for itself.

The effect of the biplane arrangement in moving the upper wing center of pressure forward of the monoplane position is a fairly well-known phenomenon and has been shown a number of times by wind-tunnel tests on biplane cells. It was, therefore, predictable and hence could have been and can be taken into account as the basis of information which has been available for some time. The influence of the tip shape, however,

still remains uncertain in new designs. In the present case the tip loss specified, although intended to be conservative, was not sufficient to allow for a forward displacement of the center of pressure from the assumed value. From this, the importance of further knowledge regarding wing-up pressure distribution is apparent and

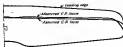


Fig. 5

a distinct value attaches to the results of any test which throws light on the subject.

ANOTHER interesting result of the PW-9 tests which has an important bearing on the structural design is the evidence of abnormally high moment coefficients on the upper wing in maneuvers involving angular velocity in pitch. It was found that the average maximum value of the upper wing coefficient of normal force for such maneuvers was 1.66 whereas the value for the wind-tunnel model, corrected to full-scale, was only 1.43. This discrepancy is believed to be caused by the flow element in only formation. Since time is required for the back-flow in the boundary layer to reach the stage where the first vortex can be formed, the streamlines flow around a pitching airfoil does not instantly break down when the normal or steady flight angle of attack is reached, but it continues in force for a short time while the wing rotates beyond this angle with the result that the lift continues to build up to an abnormal value. With respect to the lower wing, when the maximum tail load on the whole is reached, the above discussion

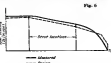


Fig. 6

does not apply near the bubble on the lower wing has been delayed as a result of the presence of the upper wing. Also, on the lower wing, the " C_L vs α " curve has been flattened out somewhat at the higher angles because of the upper wing interference. Therefore, the increment of lift in the lower wing corresponding to the "abnormal" increment on the upper wing due to pitching, is relatively small and the consequent is a higher relative wing load

ratio $\frac{C_L \text{ upper}}{C_L \text{ lower}}$ than the wind-tunnel results would lead one to believe was correct at peak load. On the

PW-9 the increase due, presumably, to the cause above discussed, was about 16 per cent.

The above explanation of the cause of the high normal force coefficients is by no means, of course, conclusive. Indeed, further confirmation of the high values of upper wing C_L should be obtained at other tests before too much weight can be attached to the PW-9 results in this matter. On the other hand, the difference between the flight and wind tunnel relative wing load ratio at peak load is marked, and other evidence of the validity of the explanation given have been found. It is a field for further study.

One more point which should be mentioned is the evidence of very great downward acting pressures on the leading edges of cambered airfoils in fast flight near zero lift, that is, in nose dives. The present rules concerning leading edge loads are based on flight measurements on the V-2 and T-3 airplanes and give good results for the high angles of attack condition in which they were originally intended to apply more particularly. The more or less arbitrary assumption that this specified load may also act in the opposite direction is correct in some but misleading in others, and may prove dangerous in the case of airplanes whose service maneuvers include

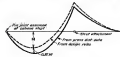


Fig. 7

fast, steep dives. At least one case is known where a leading-edge failure in a dive resulted in the destruction of a considerable portion of the wing structure, a complete loss of the ship being avoided only by the quick judgment and skillful handling on the part of the pilot. Such accidents and their causes are not common, but the lesson is learned by only a few. The results obtained in the PW-9 tests, in which downward acting pressures of nearly 500 lb. per sq. ft. were measured in dives, cannot fail to attract attention to the severity of these leading edge loads. Although the subject is too extensive to treat here, it may be said as a suggestion, that pressure distribution diagrams at or near zero lift should be studied intelligently when designing an airplane intended to dive at high speed.

IT is hoped that the above discussion of a few important questions relating to load distribution has served to illustrate the importance of pressure distribution tests and their place in design. Answers are under way which should go a long way toward removing uncertainty in establishing the proper design loads and the aerodynamic aspects of some recent airplane accidents. In the meantime, it is the opinion of the writer that not the difference between the assumed loads and load distributions on these airplanes, but the difference between the use of the refined and more precise methods of stress analysis is organized except when such use results in more conservative design.

AVIATION CLUBS IN THE COLLEGES

By John C. Holme



Members of the New York University ground school working on engine aerodynamics

COLLEGIATE interest in aviation, at present demonstrated at 34 colleges in the form of engineering study, ground school courses, and flying and gliding clubs, is by no means a novelty. There were campus college clubs in 1910, recording each other in their sporting interest in flying, and technical interest in experimental design. Typical was the Aeronautical Society of the University of Pennsylvania, where 300 members, mostly engineers, promoted balloon meets or met to discuss aircraft design. The Harvard Flying Club sponsored the Harvard-Boston Meet at Southampton, Mass., in 1910, one of the first airplane meets held in this country, and one of the most successful of the period.

The characteristic club of that early period was a group of students who as a campus society, were enthusiastic about the sport and theoretical aspects of aviation. Practical activity was centered in ten clubs which built body-control, or "hang" gliders and power machines of their own design, and attended an intercollegiate glider meet near Boston in 1911. This original formation of college aviation clubs was short-lived. Like many another

collegiate activity it failed to survive the graduation of charter members.

The next incarnation of the club came in 1919, when six ten-member pilots returned to finish their college courses. Flying activities were dependent on the use of military equipment, the members holding their Reserve commissions. After the graduation of the members who had learned to fly in the War, most of the clubs again fell apart.

The formation of aviation clubs at twenty colleges in the past three years brings the movement up to date, in its third period. Clubs of 1920 and 1929 origin were fast to recognize in this recent wave of interest, which differs from previous college aeronautics in having a reasonable expenditure of \$10. The type of activities found at these clubs are technical, military, flying, and gliding, and most of them develop from theoretical study to actual flight training. Reaching the final stages of adequate and self-supporting flying organizations has become their principal problem.

Many of the clubs have started with a ground school course as a step toward introducing members to engineering, flying, or management. Such courses were inserted in the engineering curriculum or given by members whose previous flight work and engineering studies fitted them to instruct fellow students.

A number of universities now includes Air Corps Units in their Reserve Officers' Training Corps. In the spring of 1929 over 1,200 students were active in such units, but an average of less than three of the military group in every college finally qualified as military pilots.

Although there were over 3,000 men in 39 colleges active in flying, gliding, ground schools or R.O.T.C. organizations during the last school year, actually less than 30 per cent of them received flight instruction. Lacking the financial organization to take powered flight



The O.K. Wren used by the Yale Aeronautical Society

instruction, gliding clubs were organized at Butler, M.I.T., Michigan, and Kansas with an average membership of 100 students. Plans made for the design and construction of club gliders by the engineering students were successful in the ten older established clubs affiliated with schools having good engineering courses, M.I.T. and Michigan. In the 29 clubs devoted to flying in 1928-1929, taken as a whole, the interest in gliding remained small.

This purely theoretical nature of the work of the majority of students is evidenced by the fact that only nine clubs had equipment to work with in their ground schools. Only a few of these clubs availed themselves of the opportunity of getting training as rigging, fuselage construction and engine repair, presented by the generosity of the Army and Navy in breaking obsolete and damaged planes and engines to the schools for instruction purposes. Other clubs salvaged crank-ups, or acquired worn out engines as material for their practical work.

In the school year of 1928-1929, actual flying was done by students in club-owned planes at only five colleges, and by other students in their personally owned planes at twenty other colleges. The remaining flying members, and non-member pilots, did their flying at nearby airports where time at \$15 to \$20 per solo hour restricted the number of pilots to those students who could afford it. Where a plane has been owned by a club, the hourly rate has customarily been kept at \$10 or less.

A comparison of the activities of the school year 1928-1929 with the school year 1929-1930 shows a remarkable increase in practical activity and improvement in organization. A year ago, students in 43 colleges were busy organizing aviation clubs. Aeronautical Societies and flying clubs were established in colleges where there had been ground schools or gliding activity in previous years, as well as in institutions where interest in aviation had never definitely been shown. By the spring of 1930, 34 of these 43 clubs were successful in promoting some definite activity, with over 2,000 undergraduates actually flying, gliding, or preparing for flight instruction in their ground school activities.

There were 169 pilots who flew regularly during the school year 1929-1930 in the nine most active flying clubs, located at Carnegie, Detroit, Harvard, Kansas, M.I.T., Michigan, N.Y.U., Ohio State, and Yale. Most of these members got their dual and first solo time at commercial airports on leased planes, Harvard being the only club to train its members on a club-owned ship. Eleven di-

rected makes were tested, the most popular being Waco, Fieseler and Fleet. Besides these club pilots, there were 78 non-member pilots, whose interest in private flying was so purely individual that they did not affiliate with a flying club at their college.

The college year 1929-1930 thus showed an increase in the number of college pilots from 208 to 250. While the majority of this number did not belong to flying clubs in 1929, more than two-thirds of all college pilots were full-fledged club members during the past college year. Students have found that in a college flying club, they can get more hours aloft, save money, and avoid the expense of a private plane. Many clubs have found in the past year that a saving can be effected by having their own ground schools, aided by professors of physics and other engineering courses in these colleges. The administrative officials of some colleges have been quick to recognize this demand, and offer courses patterned after military ground schools in the regular curriculum.

The advantages of organization are nowhere better seen than in the fact that, during the last college year, 146 undergraduates pilots logged a total of more than 3,700 hr aloft in the seven-year period the members of the Harvard club have had over 1,150 hr aloft in club-owned ships. Their safety record of over 1,000 hr flying with only one forced landing and without damage to equipment or personnel might well be advertised by the members of an industry whose business it is to claim and advertise the safety of flying operations. Harvard's record of hours and safety are due largely to its system

AS AN example of the type of club at college flying organizations are working toward, the Harvard Flying Club has become classic. The only club to own its own planes over a three-year period, it has effectively demonstrated during this time that club-ownership of a plane can give the members solo time at about \$11 per hour, or approximately half of the usual hourly solo charge. During this three-year period the members of the Harvard club have had over 1,150 hr aloft in club-owned ships. Their safety record of over 1,000 hr flying with only one forced landing and without damage to equipment or personnel might well be advertised by the members of an industry whose business it is to claim and advertise the safety of flying operations. Harvard's record of hours and safety are due largely to its system



President Ben Abbott of the University of Michigan Official Club in the club's repair shop

The evil regime which surrounds the "collegiate Ford" has perhaps made aircraft manufacturers shy of seeking in the colleges a market for a craft in which dilapidation threatens disaster. But there is a gradual accumulation of collegiate flying experience to show that a student organization can be fully aware of the importance of keeping flying equipment in proper condition and of operating it under proper restrictions. Students are flying, safely and regularly, and the airplane salesman must give them due attention. Mr. Holme, lately the president of the Dartmouth Aero Club, explains the nature of the colleges' activities and some ways they have progressed towards financial stability.

of having pilot members act in rotation as field manager, responsible for the day for the aerobically condition of the plane and the adherence of members to strict but reasonable rules. This is but one of many suggestions each member covers, giving each experience in the general management of a flying organization. The Harvard planes are traded in every year for new models at very reasonable terms through the assistance of one of their charter members, now manager of a sales and service agency at the local airport.

Other clubs are working on the same principle of co-operation and collective bargaining that has made the Harvard club the owner of its planes, the most successful of American college flying groups, and the first winner of the Loening Trophy for intercollegiate aviation. Twenty clubs are now rapidly developing in the preliminary stages of ground schooling through which the Harvard club has successfully passed, working toward the time when they will be flying their own ships.

Glider clubs were functioning during the past year at eight colleges—Dartmouth, Detroit, Kansas, M.I.T., Michigan, Ohio, Richmond and Yale. Nearly 300 members were active. M.I.T. and Michigan again succeeded in building and flying their own gliders, as they had done before; M.I.T. instrumentally since 1900, Michigan since 1916. The clubs are built around a nucleus of student engineers who build their own gliders or buy them and then gain practical experience by flying, repairing, and re-designing them.

The University of Michigan's glider section of 129 members, is one of the largest groups learning to glide in this country. These members are instructed as how per week in both flying and repairing. Fourteen student instructors act as operations managers in the two activities using six secondary and three primary gliders.

OF THE various interests seeking to promote college aviation clubs similar to other associations in the industry, the Inter-Collegiate Aeronautic Association has done the best work over the last year. Sponsored by the Yale Aeronautical Society in the spring of 1928, its first meeting was attended by delegates from eleven colleges. Its second and third conferences held in the spring of 1929 at the Detroit Aircraft Manufacturers Show, and in the fall of 1929 at Ohio State University, drew delegates from thirteen and twenty colleges respectively. Carried along by the same interest that drew Eastern Colleges together for the initial convention in 1904 at the University of Pennsylvania, the I.C.A.A. has sought to promote interest in flying high training planes as a college sport. Annually, delegates attend clubs in solving their difficulties about plane rental and ownership, registration of college competition, and faculty approval of the flying clubs. Their success in the latter may be measured by the fact that only Princeton, Yale and Andrews, Carnegie and Illinois will not permit club flying.

The outstanding influence among college aviation clubs has been the Loening Inter-Collegiate Air Contest, which seeks to increase college flying for the benefit of civil aviation and a military reserve. The announcement of this contest increased college rivalry in an extent practically unknown since the undergraduate days of its sponsor, Grover C. Loening. He was vice-president of the Columbia University Aero Club in 1909 when it sponsored one of the many glider meets held during its early period in collegiate aeronautics.

The awarding of \$2,500 in prizes in May, 1930, stimulated activities of the college flying clubs for the year 1929-1930. The contest was won by the Harvard Flying Club (the only club to own its plane) with a total of 408 hr. flown by 23 pilots in their 165 hp. Whirlwind Travel Air. The award of the trophy and \$1,000 in cash has enabled this club to add to its equipment.

In comparison with Harvard's record, the University of Detroit Aeronautical Society's 29 pilots flew 1,703 hr. in the contest period, winning second prize of \$500. This demonstrated that the contest was not judged merely on hours aloft flown under club auspices, for a large part of Detroit's time was accounted for by part-time engineering students who fly as military reserve officers in commercial pilots when not in school. Additional credit was given in recognition of the Detroit Society's glider section comprising 100 students, one-third of whom averaged over three flights each per week. About 100 gliders are in gliders of their own design and construction. Eighteen Yale pilots flew 361 hr. In view of administrative opposition to operating a club-owned plane, this society was forced for third prize of \$300 over the New York University Flying Club, winner of third prize of \$300 though N. Y. U.'s record was barely eclipsed by Yale.

SIGNIFICANCE to aircraft manufacturers of college flying as a part of private flying is indicated by various particulars. In 1928-1929, students at 28 colleges owned and flew over 9 per cent of the total number of planes—estimated at 645—sold during this period as private and pleasure aircraft. At this time, the average cost of a student-owned plane was \$4,000. These include thirteen Waco, eight Travel Air, five Eglers, and two Ryan monoplanes, according to a survey conducted by the College Special Advertising Agency, Inc., of New York. The contribution of college clubs to the private flying movement is in 300 pilots who flew 6,000 hr. during the school year 1928-1929, according to an approximation drawn from a survey of college flying clubs during the six months ending June 30.

The value of training college men in flying is recognized by the English and Canadian governments in subsidizing military flying units at Universities of McGill and Montreal, Hull and Oxford. The late Lord Thompson, when Air Minister of England, had a three-fold interest in aiding undergraduate flying clubs with equipment and trained personnel: the stimulation of private flying, the fostering of aeronautical research, and the development of college men to make the Royal Air Force their profession. College men in this country, however, have been unable to secure active government appreciation of these facts, save the recent stipulation that all applicants for Army and Navy, and Marine flight training must have a Bachelor's degree.

One of the major contributions of colleges to the aviation industry is in training engineers and mechanics. College trained men now form a representative group of leaders in the engineering and business field of many other industries. Some 25 colleges provide some instruction in technical aeronautics (civil, being engineering courses sponsored by the Guggenheim Foundation), and most universities have courses in business procedures, advertising, accounting, and other subjects leading to management. College men may reasonably be expected to form a good part of the back-bone of leadership in the aviation industry of the near future.

THE INTERIOR DECORATOR HAS HIS DAY

By John F. Hardecker

New Aircraft Factory, Philadelphia, Pa.

A discussion of the characteristics and effects produced by the various available finishing and insulating materials for the interiors of aircraft

WITH the modern high development of mechanical design in aircraft—greater emphasis now can be placed on color, beauty, styling. No longer can the aircraft manufacturer depend exclusively on mechanical superiority for competitive sales success. It is true to turn attention to furnishings and appointments—factors which play no small part in popularizing airplane transportation. The stylist should have his day with the interior decoration of aircraft.

The more simplicity and grace characterizes the exterior of a plane should be sought in the interior. The color should be a delightful place in which to ride—comfortable, restful and unobtrusive in appearance. Appearance should not imitate other interiors but rather portray the buoyancy and spirit of this modern mode of travel.

Requirements of pleasing decorative effects, however, must not be divorced from utilitarian requirements—this applies as much to upholstery and interior furnishings as it does to streamlines and exterior finishes. Materials which combine atmospheric delicacy with practical wearing qualities, would appear to be the perfect type for the interior of the airplane body.

In these days when psychological reactions have been brought into the practical realm of business, and manufacturers are looking more and more toward artistic fitness as well as utilitarian applications, it pays to study types of materials, colors and designs, that harmonize with air travel—fabrics and colors which interpret, in

appearance, the style "feeling" and psychological reaction of the passenger.

The element in which the airplane travels is the highest known conception of lightness, immateriality and color—atmosphere, of course, being the medium for color-light. Since the plane is moving in a medium of light much of the time, it is essential that the tones, colors and surfaces are such as will reflect perfectly and richly the play of sunlight, and the strong reflected light of water.

The "inside" finishes which are so popular for exteriors are finding ready acceptance for upholstery fabrics for aircraft, partly because they meet well to be light and color effect, partly because they conserve the idea of a unit of color and design, and in addition, because they tend to lend an appearance of reliability and strength. For this reason silver plays a large part in serial color schemes and silver effect fabrics are popular.

The foregoing should not be taken as indicative of a universal trend—individuality is still rampant, and fortunately so. Proper interior decoration provides a full



Illustration depicting interior of modern aircraft cabin.

opportunity for intelligent originality. In planes for private owners, beauty and convenience attain the same importance that they hold in motor car designs. In fact, the custom decorated plane is beginning to become a significant factor in private plane sales.

Much has often been said of the contrast in appearance by the foreign traveler who compared our transport planes with those operating in Europe. Such contrast has usually been decidedly unfavorable to our planes, the feeling being that the European manufacturer lays considerable stress upon interior appearance, while in this country the interior of the plane is handled by mechanics and is merely considered as a mechanical



View: Fuselage Machine Interior. Lower fuselage and main, machine interior, upper fuselage and ceiling, large airplane electric, instrument, and gauges.

Above: General Air Machine plane upper fuselage in view. Fuselage machine interior.

Right: Interior of Generalized Commercial airplane green fabric for the seats, green fabric, left for the lower portion of seats, and upper and air required fabric for the walls.



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way. That foreign interiors are decidedly attractive is very true, but attention is respectfully called to the fact that our own progress in this field within the last year has been truly remarkable.

Most of the progress made may be distinctly traced to the advent of the professional decorator in the aircraft field. It is to the evolving credit of our plane manufacturers that wherever they have been able to find specialists in any field who were willing and competent to aid in the solution of a specific problem, they have enthusiastically welcomed their co-operation. The matter of interior decorating is a decidedly professional matter, and the progressive plane manufacturer is rapidly becoming conscious of this fact.

While the matter of interior decoration may be satisfactorily entrusted entirely to the competent hands of the professional decorator, it is believed that the airplane manufacturer should have at least a general knowledge of the types of material available. This need not be detailed, expert knowledge, but it should at least be sufficiently comprehensive so that he may discuss intelligently his possibilities and desires in the terms and language of the decorator he employs. For that reason, certain basic information and background concerning about these materials will now be included. The information will usually be restricted both as to detail and scope, but its value for the purpose outlined should not be unduly depreciated.

MOLTAIR pile fabric, or molair velvet, lend themselves to all kinds of interesting and rich effects, both in color and design. Because of the peculiar adaptability of molair velvet to take rich dyes, it adequately meets the demand for absorbing and holding colors that are both sun-proof and weather-proof. The luxurious close pile of a good molair plush confers a delicacy of "feeling" with substantiality. The soft padding comfort associated with the snug, clinging character

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of velvet pile, preserving shipping and skidding with the softness of the plant, makes it an ideal fabric.

As to its durability without showing evidence of wear might have had little appeal to the aircraft manufacturer ten years ago, because the life of a plane then was all too short.

Today conditions have radically changed and there is a prospect of many years of useful service for the modern plane. For this reason, upholstery is now being selected for its wearing qualities as well as for decoration, comfort and general suitability. As a satisfactory seat-covering, molair velvet is highly acceptable, since its porous nature allows free circulation of air and does not hold dust and dirt on the surface. It is easily and properly cleaned merely by the application of soap and water, and such cleaning is no way destroys or injures the soft lustre of the velvet.

NETWORKS airplane fabrics are new type light weight Fabrics developed especially for the interior trim of cabin planes. They are made on a high grade, woven fabric base, treated with appropriate presynthetic colors and embedded in decorative patterns. Finishing colors are then combined with practical utility, giving a material that is water-proof, cleanable, scuff-proof and light in weight. Unadorned by changing temperatures, these fabrics are extremely ideal for the purpose.

These materials are extensively used for interior trim, such as side walls and head linings, seats and chairs. They are made in various weights and grades to suit specific purposes and style requirements. In general, side walls and ceilings use a drill construction cloth with pyroxylon lining, or a light netting construction. For the portion below the median line, where the material is subjected to much harder use, heavier netting is generally used, and for the upholstering of chairs, seats, etc., heavy netting or molair velvet is used.

Interior linings are usually manufactured in 50 in

width. A certain amount of both sides having very green sides with molair velvet and molair velvet, in some cases, and setting panels with molair velvet in some cases.

Below: Interior of a Western Air Machine P-111 (left side No. 1). The ceiling is green molair velvet with black netting; side walls molair velvet in brown, black and olive green; head linings; main gray molair velvet (left); and carpeting side green.

Other: Western Air Machine P-111 (right side). Main fuselage and lower fuselage and upper fuselage.



width regardless of the type of netting cloth. The dells are the least expensive and more easily obtained, and at the same time, on account of the heavy rib of the weave, do not present as good an appearance as the netting or molair velvet. The netting are closely woven fabrics of considerable strength and durability. The molair velvet is slightly more loosely woven than the netting, but have heavier thread and are usually napped on the back. The molair velvet is favored for upholstering purposes and for other work where a more or less cushion effect is desired, for instance, as the side walls of a plane, provided they were to have padding beneath the fabric. These Fabrics are usually identified by a serial number, those labelled in the 5,000 series being drills, 4,000 and 6,000 series netting and 7,000 series molair velvet.

NOTES ON MEETING THE PUBLIC

By C. L. Funnell

PLANES are good and getting better. Radio communication is improving rapidly. A fair supply of transport pilot talent is in sight. Available funds are increasing, and so are losses. Things are being done for the air transport business and it is doing splendid things for itself—except, occasionally, in relation to its possible customers.

Everyone agrees that the first step in transforming a lay member of the public into a customer of air transportation is to get him into the air. Make a favorable impression and he flies again. Another pleasant contact and he accepts the aviation world as something that fits his sphere of life. With luck he will order a habit of flying for business and pleasure.

Now this lay member of the public upon whom we are all tugging our anvils is probably over 25. He has never flown. He is apt to be active for the windward tail when a cutoff beach over five degrees in a no-tail breeze and he thinks 45 m.p.h. is a motor car in midday noon. And he is equipped with the means to travel as he pleases, to take instructions if he is so inclined, and to own and maintain an airplane.

Here's a true story that deals with the first flight of a man who ought to become a customer. The plane had taken off and was flying smoothly over interesting country. Our first-fighter asked the co-pilot what factory lay below. "Society," and the co-pilot. "It's by me."

A moment later the steward-assistant pilot relieved the gentleman at the controls and what had been very smooth flying became irregular. Over-controlling, maybe. When the first fighter landed he stayed landed. Why? He had had ten minutes with that assistant pilot, who had blundered confusedly and rudely with the plane, was demonstrating his apparent unfamiliarity with the plane. Roughly: just a few hours of preparation for the job. Possible result: another luring customer.

And here is an example of how the airport ruins our business. An industrial executive who flew in terror from the war had recently invented the slow, trouble and cash to get a private pilot's license. Finding himself in a new city with two hours between trains he drove out to an airport with the idea of putting in a little time and having a look at the place from the air.

After ten minutes of disoriented talk on the part of the hangar man, a plane was finally checked, filled up and put on the line. Mr. Private Pilot flew around for an hour, landed, and failed to settle his account. Was he shocked and invited to drop in whenever he was in town? Was he asked to look over the new planes around the hangar? Did they want to know how he liked the airplane he had flown?

Incidents such as those recounted by Mr. Funnell are uncommon and are becoming more so. They can, however, still be minimized from time to time. Editors of this magazine have had occasional experiences quite as disturbing as those, even in recent months. Air transportation will be judged as a whole by most of its potential patrons.

No, is the answer to every question. The man who accepted the cash trade is evident that the whole transaction had cast heavily into his future for the afternoon. One more story may illustrate another phase of ineptly polished contact with customers who might-be. Recently I had an ordeal in a city a few hours away by train and a few minutes away by air. I heard there was an airline operating to the point in question, with a hangar at X Airport.

I arrived at the airport and approached the first building I came to. It had a window in it, and I asked the man inside where I could get my time-table. He was busy with a hot dog sandwich, which he had just succeeded in biting. I couldn't have come at a more inopportune time. He poked his thumb over his shoulder and so I went on to the next building.

This building had an open door, through which I saw a man sitting at a desk. I went in and told my story. The man had completely overcome all courtesy. Or else he could remember people by hearing them speak. He did not look up. He reached around to a table at his back, picked up a manuscript about and handed it to me. This man would have been sitting a hot dog, too.

There was an airplane in the adjacent hangar, and I stroled over to look at it. Along came a plane, slender, serious and a little hostile. "Wonder if I can help you any?" he said. "I heard you asking questions at the office. Maybe I could tell you something about the line. I'm flying the afternoon trip."

He could and did help a lot. "See," he suggested. "It's a long walk over to that bus line on the main road. And it's hot. Let me drive you over in a car. Got our right here. When are you making your trip? I can have a company car pick you up at your office."

That's what I mean. A pilot, service-minded. He sold me completely on his line. If I'd never flown, was afraid to climb apple trees and got dizzy hanging pictures, I think he would still have sold me. We could see with that pilot's viewpoint in every job in air transportation, which has contact with the public. Ticket clerks, information people, bus drivers, porters, stewards, pilots, traffic managers and presidents.

A DESIGNER'S NOTES ON INTERFERENCE

WIND channel and other tests

show that the resistance of two bodies in close proximity to one another is rarely equal to the sum of the resistance of the two bodies placed apart one from the other, and yet performance exhibited for new planes must necessarily be based on the resistance of the performance of a large number of parts. The "interference effect" may therefore account for wide divergence between estimated and accomplished performance, a fact of which undue advantage is too often taken by engineers of the optimistic type.

This factor of ignorance has been attacked in a number of aerodynamic laboratories and yet little has been done. If any generalization can be drawn from the existing data, they would seem to be that the larger the scale of the test, the more accurate the results, and that few basic principles for predicting and overcoming this effect have been advanced.

Much can be done in the full scale wind channels which are in existence on the land and in the air. The fact that these tests are a great deal of information on the subject which has been gained, and it is suggested that all strength designers, who have experienced, and particularly, who have been able to detect interference effects, would be doing a great deal of good in making a public account of the facts. Finding some good general points of experience, the following notes, need not be so much scrappy and disjointed, may be of interest.

One of the most striking cases of interference yet recorded was observed by a German authority in the course of testing an airplane. On sticking a pin into a large wooden model of a wing of low resistance, the total drag was increased to three or four times that of the model alone, and by an amount far greater than could conceivably be accounted for as the resistance of the pin itself.

The conditions are roughly indicated in Fig. 1. Investigation showed that the presence of the pin had produced a vortex of turbulent flow, spreading out behind it until the whole tail of the model was practically enveloped by turbulence. In general, it seems safe to assume that all cases of low resistance of a series of parts, are the result of producing turbulence by the interfering body. This turbulence is seen diagrammatically in the boundary layer of the

body interfered with, and causes a breaking away of the flow around the latter.

A still more interesting case has been placed on record by the Royal Naval School for Landing of Aeroplanes, Tests were being made to discover the best arrangement for the characteristic "cutaway" on the center of the leading edge of the wing of a Fokker mono-



Fig. 1. The turbulent area caused by the slot in the leading edge of the wing.

plane, in view of the pilot's head. When the installation of the leading edge extended a little too far forward, the characteristics of the model changed suddenly. The nature of the change was precisely similar to that which would have occurred if the aspect ratio of the wing had been greatly increased. The drag at small lift coefficients was slightly increased, but the increase was proportional to the square of the lift, and became very large at large lift coefficients (Fig. 2).

The "cutaway" had provided turbulent flow, and consequently caused the disappearance of lift, over the central portion of the wing. The two outer sections continued to lift normally, but produced the induced drag proper to two separate wings of approximately half the aspect ratio of the model.

This case is typical of a kind of interference of great practical importance, which is probably far more common than has been generally recognized. An example cited is perhaps an extreme case, and when described, the nature of the effect is fairly easily understood. The results of many tests made in the Ransome & Paul wind channel show that the interference between fuselage, engine, wing, tail, etc., and wings, have very frequently this same characteristic of apparently increasing the induced drag of the wing system. That is, the interference resistance (pressure) in the square of the lift coefficient developed by the wing system involved.

When "induced interference" of this type is found, it is usually also found that there is an accompanying lift in the

lift corresponding to any given angle of attack, just as in wind tunnel if the aspect ratio had been physically reduced.

The induced drag of a wing is always small at small angles of attack. The effective reduction of aspect ratio caused by "induced interference" reflects this, and hence tends to reduce the total induced drag, at a given angle of attack, and small angles are made only over a small range of lift. The importance of this effect may easily escape notice, particularly if drag measurements only are made, and the change in lift caused by interference is not observed.

As the change in drag at small angles caused by this type of interference is small at small lift coefficients, the top speed of a machine so affected will be slightly reduced. As the interference drag increases very rapidly with lift, it becomes serious at climbing speed, and in level flight at high altitudes. Interference of the kind will then explain the many failures, passing cases of machines which have given the estimated top speed at sea level, but have failed badly in service at high altitudes.

Another feature in machines having serious interference of the induced type is a very small increase in the landing speed. This is in part due to actual loss of lift, but it is also due to the effect of the induced drag.



Fig. 2. Reduced lift of the small portion of leading edge A (shown in plan) but a great increase in induced drag.

Factors are not infinitely powerful to hold the machine at the large angle of attack corresponding to maximum lift, so the greatly reduced lift effective aspect ratio.

During the World War a case came to light, evidently of this type, which gave a striking example of how small a cause may lead to serious effects on airplane performance. It was suggested to modify a machine of a well-tried type to fit it for shipboard use. The main modification involved the fitting of a wings joint in the rear spar, and the provision of a jury-rig between top and bottom from spar to their forward ends to keep the wing outline in shape when the wings were folded.

The jury strut fitted was a perma-

would cover me when working on regularly scheduled flights between regularly scheduled terminals, so a flight engineer.

The premium demanded on this policy was \$75.00 per year and the face of the policy was \$1,250,000 in case of a total surrender, with lower benefits in the event of certain specified injuries. I have since learned that this is a regular medical coverage and one understood that can be obtained by even a taxi driver except that the benefits, in this case, is the sum of a total surrender would have been \$15,000.00. My suggestion that a rider be attached to the policy requiring me to fly in our own ship did not arouse any interest at first but when it became apparent that I would not deal on any other basis the matter was taken up with the insurance office and eventually the policy was issued. I remember that you laughed at me when I told you about it and now how much better your own accident policy was.

For some reason the next insurance did not ask the question that leads to the "passenger's aviation experience" and did not mention it. The application was signed. A couple of days later the company doctor called on me for the medical examination and for a few days I thought that all might be over. Not so. It arose that this company has that matter incorporated in the medical examination and it came up there. He completed his examination and left.

A couple of weeks later the representative of this company came and had a policy on my desk. An examination of it, however, revealed the fact that the policy was written at an additional charge of \$250 per annum because of my aviation activities. I did not accept it and have heard nothing from the company since.

Several other members grined and desisted quick with an application and examination. When I desisted I was sorry just that, for they never came back. One occasion I wrote two airplanes in one day, and the other was waiting in the reception room while I dished with another. I knew one of them pretty well and he had my occupation as "Assistant Secretary" and told nothing about the detail of my work. It seems that this one surely got by for I was contacted by the company doctor and passed. At least I am told so. The matter then went up to one of the higher executives and here it hit the usual snag. He did not know me personally, but it seems that the papers on him, particularly my current insurance regarding the need for membership and associated the names. Hence? Another member tried but this one at a charge of \$150.00 per thousand over the usual rate for my age. This policy was also desisted by me although I am forced to confess that I had been on the point of doing it. I thought the matter over for some time before I made that decision.

Last September another member called and explained that he had come at the suggestion of a friend of mine whose position, in connection with pro-

tion, is similar to my own and who had been through about the same ordeal. This man did not represent an American company and his "passenger's aviation experience" was a little different from the others. All he wanted to know was the average number of flights per year I had made. I made a check, as nearly as possible, of all my flights since the first one in 1911 and it averaged about

three and a half per month. You see, there was a period of about ten years when I did not make a flight of any kind. This company doctor examined me and passed me and he is the man who handled me the policy this morning. By the way, Chief, do you agree? I could get a little advance on my salary to pay for this one before some one over there reads the papers, too?

Servicing Short Cuts

AVAILABLE TOOLS FOR INSPECTIONS

DAILY line inspections are one of the most important functions of any maintenance department. In the vast majority of cases they are carried out conscientiously and with the proper degree of technical skill. Even a labor efficiency bonus, they are rarely satisfactory.

A suggestion to eliminate much of the time and wasted effort, and to increase the quality and thoroughness, which is a function of the availability of proper tools takes the form of an easily worked-out tool box, to be used only by the personnel interested with inspection work.

A portable carry all cased after the usual carpenter's open saw and tool box, is subdivided into a number of compartments and equipped with all the tools needed for thorough routine inspection of one small compartment are kept pliers, wire cutters, and a set of wrenches; an another, aviation tape safety wire, roller pins, and an assortment of screws, nuts, bolts, and washers, in a

third, a fire pressure gauge, a voltmeter, screw drivers, etc. In a long compartment is kept a tire pump, cork gun, aviation gun, and oil can, and elsewhere room is made for log books, measuring records, etc.

Such a box need hardly be larger than 20 in. x 10 in. x 10 in. and when equipped with a wooden handle or a strap, can be easily carried from place to place. It can be cheaply built, and adapted to any specialized needs, and if properly worked can easily save its cost including considerable cost expenditure in a short time. Plugging the box and each of the items it contains, some distinguishing color will greatly increase its visibility.

PLATFORMS IN THE SHOP

THE use of special stands and working ladders to airplane workbenches has long been common practice. The development of such equipment as carried out by the Aero Corporation of

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California under the direction of Mr. Walter A. Hamilton, seems to represent the ultimate in convenience and efficiency. The platform is a question of nothing less than a small and complete shop built up several feet from the floor and mounted on casters. The floor space is ample to permit several men to work without interference. The platform is not easy to allow for the landing gear, and the height is sufficient to allow direct working on the engine, propeller, and engine installation. The ladders, wire, pliers, and tools, with which the platform are equipped have been the means of effecting very important time savings in such operations as oil treatments, cooling adjustments, etc., as well as servicing the pointed, thoroughness and quality of the work. A workman up on a step ladder, who needs a tool he does not have with him, must climb between the legs of the ladder, and then spend considerable time in going after that tool or doing the job with the servicing tool. This complete shop platform removes both difficulties.

The accompanying photograph shows the type of platform used in working on the general-chassis engine and the platforms of the same type have been put as successfully adapted to one work engine mounted both difficulties.

GREASE HANDLING

CONSIDERABLE labor saving has been made in the service unit of Tricon Industrial and Western Air, Inc., by the use of a grease pump. The grease storage barrel with a power



Greasing grease by means of a pump driven by an electric drill.

prop for pumping grease into the joints of the Alouette pressure lubrication. This work is greatly accomplished with a hand pump operated by a mechanic. In the Alouette service unit a gear pump has been provided with the drive shaft extending above the top of the barrel. When a mechanic wishes to fill the Alouette engine lubricator, with which all of the planes are provided, he attaches a Black & Decker electric drill to the pump drive shaft, turns on the current, and quickly fills the portable tank.

the form of plots with the weights as abscissa and breaking loads as ordinates. For each type a curve of maximum efficiency is drawn through the maximum values of strength-weight values. These curves represented the ideal ribs of minimum weight for each type and were the graphs of the equation $P = K W^2$, where P was the breaking load in pounds, W was the weight of the rib in ounces, and K was a constant dependent upon the type of construction. The value of K will vary with the chord and section used, but also the ribs of any type for a given chord will have K 's in the same relation as those found in the tests. In the parallel-chord ribs which were used for the parallel-chord tests, K for the full webbed ribs with stiffeners, and 40 for a rib with a full web and without stiffeners.

After manufacturing difficulties, limitations on service, and production facilities have been considered in the selection of a type, the detail design of the rib must be carried out. This report gives many suggestions on this subject. Numerous have been placed from a study of hundreds of test failures. None of the requirements follow.

A rib is a highly stressed form type of rib large secondary stresses often caused the primary stresses. While these stresses are usually secondary stresses may be reduced by putting a joint in the diagonal in the plane of the rib near the end fastener, or by reducing the area-section of the member near its connection.

It is better to have compression diagonals in the spars, rather than tension, because of the difficulty in securing the ends of tension members. When making the gluing operation, be careful for the joints of truss members, a stress of one-fourth of that used in the test. The wood parallel to the grain should be used.

Double compression members with a spacer at the center were found to be about one-half as strong as the same members brought together and glued throughout their length when the length was such as to share both in the Euler column stress.

The coefficient of safety for compression diagonals in the plane of the rib was found to be about one and one-half.

Stiffening does not increase the strength of chord joints.

Members with thin, outstanding flanges and with little internal rigidity, fail by tearing under loads much greater than their nominal compression loads. This may be avoided by heavily stiffening the cross-section without increasing the area.

Physically with a bulb, core was found to be satisfactory even for one web, but if lightening holes were added the strength dropped rapidly because the bulb core was soon very easily around.

Small stiffeners glued near the apex of lightening holes were found very effective in reducing buckling. The resulting percentage of increase in weight will often be accompanied by



Platform for work on single-chord ribs plane

Technical Abstracts

CALCULATING WING RIB STRESS

THE DESIGN OF AIRPLANE WING RIBS, by J. A. Nieuwland and George W. Trayer, NACA Technical Report No. 235.

DUE to their rigid joints and redundant members, the stresses in wing ribs are not uniformly distributed, and the engineer confronted with the design of a new rib usually resorts to the trial-and-error method. In order to simplify the problem of rib design an investigation was conducted by the Langley Laboratory under the name of "Investigation to determine some principles of load distribution in wing ribs." The selection of the best general type of rib for a given chord and chord length, and

and in determining rates regarding the effect of various factors on the design and strength of different ribs.

The investigation included tests of wing ribs and of parallel-chord ribs section using various web designs—wood, metal, and a combination of plywood and metal.

The ribs had the usual section of the E-15 lower wing section, a rather thick wing section, half 40 in. and 36 in. chord length were tried. The parallel-chord ribs were made of wood, metal, or plywood blocks, and had four different depths ranging from 24 in. to 36 in. In the pressure distributions used in tests of the wing ribs were those recommended by the Bureau of Aeronautics, Navy Department. The load on the parallel-chord specimens was practically uniform.

Results of the tests were presented in

qualified to speak with authority on the subject. The present changing environment of test indications is the result of an ever-changing mode of cooperation with the Army, the Navy and the leading commercial transport operators. As a collector by means of letters rather than a pilot, it would seem that a series of automatically flushing balloons would be much more disconcerting than the steady indication of a pointer, and the British, who have been using the fading light form of indication, are in process of abandoning it.

In closing, we would like to add our word of praise for the work being done by the Department of Commerce and the Bureau of Standards. The lighting of airways and the development of the radio beacon system is a tremendous job and the radio industry is appreciative of the Department's efforts.

GLENN TATE, Jr.
Engineering Service Department
Pittsburgh Instrument Company

Design Prejudices

TO THE EDITOR:

I have read with interest your editorial entitled "Superstition in Airplane Design." In the early 1920's time and I am pleased to advise of my complete agreement with the point of view taken which in my words is in the following:

Each airplane and each part of each airplane should be considered by the designer with an entire open mind as to arrangement, type of construction and materials of construction in order to achieve any possibility of failing in the development because of entering the field in a prejudiced state of mind.

In short, generalizations are always dangerous, certainly so in Aviation. The principle "My million Frenchman can't be wrong" applied to the British would throw in the towel. I am sure that there may be some merit in certain instances for the bi-plane.

Incidentally, I personally feel that in general the predominance of such prejudiced opinion as exists maintains with pilots, mechanics and mechanics rather than with engineers.

T. F. WATSON,
Chief Engineer,
Curtis Aeroplane & Motor Co., Inc.

The Test Pilot

TO THE EDITOR:

Your editorial in the December issue titled "Test Piloting and the Test Pilot" was read with interest and appreciation. Generally I agree with everything you had to say on this topic and more particularly the value of the test pilot who is able and willing to report what he sees, felt and did and what the airplane did.

Turning over a few pages of the same issue, page 124, I observed a coincidence to be found. Ralph O'Brien, assistant test pilot, accomplished his job, stating that the one outstanding quality of a good test

pilot is the ability to accurately observe and express in words an opinion of the behavior and characteristics of the airplane.

Many designers like myself have neither the time nor the ability to become accomplished flyers and, most therefore depend upon the observations of a test pilot and upon time as available flight recording instruments are usually available.

The then head of the N.A.C.A. Flight Test Department told me that some of our latest test pilots, including their own ones, were surprised to find that instrumental records failed to support their statements and in some cases the test pilot's statements were fairly contradicted by recording instruments.

Some designers with whom I have talked on this point believe that the designer should not fly his own product as he understands too much about it and is apt to underestimate the importance of its accessories.

Designers frequently find that opinions and observations of two or more test pilots will not agree on the same airplane.

My own method at present is to avoid pre-conceived impressions of test pilot's reports and to have the day tested by as many test pilots as possible. My conception of a good test pilot is

one who begins quite cautiously and unprejudicedly familiar as he becomes acquainted with the ship and continues to do so until he has thoroughly and completely investigated all of its characteristics and who, upon landing, is able to talk freely and accurately about what happened.

I recall a case in which Lieut. Steve Callaway was test flying a ship for us which had a tendency toward wing flutter in moderate dives. Steve could not discover the trouble accurately so I went along with him on the next flight and landed in the same puzzled state of mind he was. That evening I went out in the hangar and after a little investigation discovered that the lower aileron was rotating properly but the upper one was loose back by the main spar.

Before I had a chance to make the aileron was of the long type and then hastily noticeable bending of the upper aileron was causing the wing to flutter as we afterwards proved when the bending was eliminated. If Steve had not been such a good test pilot he would never have admitted that he was puzzled but would probably have reported, instead, some plausible-sounding cause for the flutter.

LEONARD C. MANNING,
Vice-president, chief engineer
The Glenn L. Martin Company

Side Slips

BY ROBERT R. OSBORN

MR. GEORGE WISS, *Ramrod Field*, New York, has purchased a *Stearman* powered by Wright from the factory—born in an aeronautical magazine.

Well, it may still be good for nothing.

Mr. T.A.K. sends to a clipping from the *Albany Evening Journal* which may explain why one of our famous racing pilots can't afford of the jet he carried with him in his plane until recently. "George was accompanied by Gibbons, his flying trust mascot."

We don't know just how to interpret the following clipping and in it is R.H.D., Jr., of Farmingdale, N. Y., but we must say that the whole affair looks very suspicious to us. Dr. Watson, very suspicious. The clipping is from a news bulletin put out by a "Glimmer" magazine, and states: "Glimmer McCormary, Denver, Colo., has established a commercial jet test service."

The report of the test of a new motor in the New York papers is very interesting. "Read talking along the field with the chronic wide open, but no modern test pilot, he took the case of the exhaust and the only loud report was the scrape of a piston." The

amazing part, in us, is that the scrape of the piston didn't bring a roar or at least a loud report from the pilot.

The New Haven Evening Register makes a very amusing charge against the Colonial Air Lines in a recent issue and we suggest that the Department of Commerce investigate the whole affair. A Colonial plane recently made a forced landing at Washington, Conn., because of weather, and the Register reports: "In response to the signal flame-lighting it to take shelter the big plane gave the air-minded biplane a thrill as it glided over the borough twice before landing at a very low altitude."

What we wish to know is, just what is the idea of landing at a low altitude? (Idea discovered by "The Flying Highway" on Westport aviation cable.)

The other day we saw across a two-year old aeronautical magazine, and noticed the inevitable advertisement of the flying school. "Are you hungry for... adventure... opportunity... big pay?... Then choose aviation!" Before they attempt to lead us to its modern conditions "Are you hungry?... Then you're an aviator!"



These Timken Bearings Have Run 70 Times the Life of the Average Automobile

The pinion bearings in the 6 Westinghouse-Nuttall gear reduction units at the Washington Pulp and Paper Company have each rolled up the enormous total of over 2,338,000,000 revolutions, and a recent check-up shows that they are good for many millions more.

Loaded 100% of their Timken catalogue rating, they have averaged 6½ days per week, 24 hours a day since they were installed in April, 1923.

The total distance traveled by each of these bearings is the equivalent of driving an automobile more than 3,500,000 miles, whereas the average automobile travels but 50,000 miles during its entire life.

A worthy tribute to Timken stamina! Don't you want this same unequalled endurance in your ships? The Timken Roller Bearing Company, Canton, Ohio.

TIMKEN Tapered Roller BEARINGS

TEXACO MARFAK GREASE
ENDURINGLY
EFFECTIVE

HERE'S the lubricant that has solved the problem of rocker-arm lubrication. Its lacing qualities, resistance to high temperatures and highly effective lubricating qualities are exceptional. It has proved ideal for the lubrication of rocker-arm assemblies and all enclosed grease-packed bearings.

Prominent flyers and engine manufacturers who have tested it—in the air and in the shop and laboratory—find it admirably suited for this especially difficult job.

Texaco Marfak Grease, and the well-known Texaco Aviation Gasoline and Texaco Airplane Oils are available at the leading airports of the country.

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SHIPS THAT FIT EVERY FLIER'S NEED

**PRICED TO PLEASE
ALL-COMERS
TO THE SKIES**

Curtiss-Wright will present a fleet of seven ships for 1931 that will perform feats of endurance, economy and handling ease that set up new standards of simplicity and service. • Trim refinements, abundant power give the new Curtiss-Wright runabouts announced here . . . and the other ships to be announced soon . . . a measure of performance and rugged strength that will please owners of 1931! • Here is your opportunity to get your share of the business now and in the years ahead. Satisfying simplicity of control and of service makes it possible for anyone to own or pilot • Curtiss-Wright

plans. Wide variety of the well-balanced fleet gives dominance to the dealers of Curtiss-Wright in every field of flying. • For here are seven outstanding new ships. They're priced to please all types of buyers. They're designed to suit every kind of need. They're produced by the oldest and best-known manufacturer. And they're distributed by the best dealer organization. • To the public Curtiss-Wright means dependable flying. To pilots it means mastery and service. To the distributor, building good business now and for the future, Curtiss-Wright is a name he can depend on . . . a name to help him grow!

CURTIS-WRIGHT
AIRPLANE COMPANY

ROBERTSON, MISSOURI

NOT ONLY A NEW PLANE
BUT A NEW KIND OF PLANE!



THE CURTISS-WRIGHT "JUNIOR"

THOSE who are flying ships two years old have no idea what keen work has gone on behind the scenes in research and engineering. As you look over these advance models of Curtiss-Wright's new fleet you cannot fail to be impressed with the striking strides of Curtiss-Wright production. Not of all the fleet, the ship that will supply the most news for 1931 is the Curtiss-Wright "Junior"—a 2-place plane specially designed for amateurs! Engineered by the staff that designed fighters for the Army, the Navy, and record-smashing speed and commercial planes, the "Junior" benefits by all that Curtiss-Wright has learned in building for the whole

field. First, imagine a ship that costs \$3490... one that takes off from a good-sized lawn, lands in the same space, and is so easy to fly that beginners have mastered it in a day! Imagine a plane that hits 80, cruises at 70... gets 26 miles to a gallon of gas... yet lands at 28 m. p. h. in 150 feet! For that's what the "Junior" will do! Easy to buy, easy to fly...and so refined in design that an amateur could assemble it. Instruments complete even to a Beech-type speed indicator and perfect visibility makes it the easiest type to fly or to learn to fly. Such refinements are possible only when an organization designs its products to cover the entire field.

STABLE FOR SPORT STURDY FOR TRAINING

THE TRAVEL AIR

"SPORT-TRAINER"



WHAT Curtiss-Wright learned from the "Mystery Ship," fastest commercial plane in the world, Curtiss-Wright now incorporates in the striking new TRAVEL AIR Sport-Trainer. Sturdily built, trimly refined, you'll like this fleet little ship. It offers advances in stability, handling and servicing ease, which can be effected only when an organization builds for the whole field. Its clean-cut lines, its sleek streamlining, its speed in excess of 100 m. p. h. and cruising range of 500 miles, make it a craft of which you may be justly proud. Actually it's so

stable in flight and so responsive to all controls that it's a real treat to fly it! Powered with the air-cooled Wright-Gipsy engine, with a full complement of quality instruments, with a special wide-track, shock-absorbing landing gear and brakes, this TRAVEL AIR is remarkably easy to control on the ground or in the air. In every detail it is designed to make flying and servicing by the owner as inexpensive as possible. That's why the Sport-Trainer will make a wide appeal to 1931 buyers!

CURTISS-WRIGHT

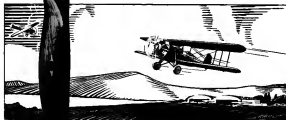
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ROBERTSON, MISSOURI

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For smaller ships selling at popular prices, and for larger ships using geared engines, consult with us about Paragon's standardized models.



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(Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation)

SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

DISPATCHING MAIL AND PASSENGER PLANES BY TELEPHONE TYPEWRITERS

In the efficient operation of air transport lines, quick, accurate and flexible communication is a basic need. The Bell System meets this need with Telephone Typewriter Service*—a modern form of communication which provides an unlimited flow of typewritten messages between all connected points.

Eastern Air Transport, Inc., uses Telephone Typewriter Service to connect thousands of its airports and offices from Brooklyn to Jacksonville. The circuit is used for dispatching mail and passenger planes, reporting plane movements, transmitting weather information, making passenger reservations, and exchanging passenger lists.

Officials at various points can confer almost as readily as though they were in the same room. The handling of mail is facilitated, because of the quick and complete information transmitted about the number of pouches carried by each plane, their postage and destination. Accounting details are speedily handled.

Other air transport companies also use Telephone Typewriter Service. Manufacturing concerns direct the activities of distant factories and branch offices. Your local Bell Company will gladly help you make a survey to determine whether Telephone Typewriter Service could be of similar value to your company.

*Telephone Typewriter Service combines the speed of the telephone, the flexibility of conversation and the accuracy and permanence of the typewriter. A message typed on an office is reproduced at the same moment on identical typewriters from all connected offices. Telephone Typewriter can be operated by any one who can operate a typewriter.



Stations and offices of Eastern Air Transport from New York to Florida being so connected could send each other by Telephone Typewriter Service. Any one can talk in service from directly to any of all others.



YOU'RE A TOTAL LOSS TO A PLANE, MR. WATER-THIN, THAT'S WHY QUAKER STATE THROWS YOU OUT!



Mr. Water-Thin is the worst of trouble. He records a top-of-work in his life. For he's the quart of thin, new lubricating oil that ordinary refining leaves in every gallon of used oil. Material that's so light-bodied that Quaker State engineers call it "water-thin"—and throw it out!

Ordinary refining can't remove "water-thin". But Quaker State refining can and does get it out. It gets it out by an exclusive special process. And by removing "water-thin", Quaker State is able to replace this waste with rich, full-bodied lubricant. Quaker State gives you four

full quarts of lubricant to the gallon instead of three quarts and one quart of waste. So Quaker State really gives you an extra quart!

It took years of refining experience and skill to work out the process that removes "water-thin". It took an enormous investment in equipment to put it into operation. But the result is more than worth it. For it has enabled Quaker State to produce the best lubricant as airplanes ever had. It is the chief reason why Quaker State is the world's largest selling pure Pennsylvania Crude.

And here's still another reason why Quaker State gives better lubrication. Quaker State is made entirely from 100% pure Pennsylvania Grade Crude Oil—a motor oil so free from impurities that it doesn't require acid treatment in refining. That's important! For acids tend to destroy some of the oil's strength.

Try Quaker State. Let it prevent one accident any more oil you have ever used. It will! For there's a full quart of extra lubrication, extra protection in every gallon of it!

QUAKER STATE MOTOR OIL



THERE'S AN
EXTRA QUART

OF LUBRICATION
IN EVERY GALLON



WE FLY...

YOU know the sudden breath-taking sense of exaltation when your car emerges on the crest of some magnificent hillside from which you look for miles out to sea or over billowing tops of mountains below. What is that sensation? It is a sudden sense of power... a feeling that your human faculties have been miraculously extended... it is a slight taste of divinity!

How immeasurably greater this sense of divine exaltation is when gliding high in the heavens, looking serenely down upon the colorful, silent world below! It is a feeling known only to those who have learned from personal experience the tranquil glory of flight.

Those who know the freedom of the airways find in the old paths of earth something nerve-racking... a sense of restraint, of suffocation almost... much as the pioneer motorists looked back on the days when they sat in clouds of dust behind plodding teams of horses. Each month they find increasing pleasure in the pathways of the sky...

Unless you are too old to renege your habits to new aspects of life, some day you will fly. Fortunately

we these men and women who today recognize that the realm of the skies is offering a fresh lease on life. The little spirit of a new renaissance is in the air. It is hard for those who *test* it to interpret its significance, though we see the faces of men turning upward, and we see the far places of the earth brought nearer in friendly communication.

The great trim-masted, all-metal planes of 1931 are truly yachts that bring you safety not only as sure as the safety of your yachts upon the sea, but as luxurious and as restful. These new planes free your thoughts from mechanical limitations, just as you are today above the concerns of the engine room of a steamship.

The pilot and mechanic in their forward control cabin have every mechanical device necessary for day or night flying in all seasons. Fundamentally the new plane is designed as close to mechanical perfection as possible, with all the strength and extraordinary performance ability for which Ford planes are famous. Essential as a jewel, it spreads its wings like burnished silver, to fly with the smooth grace of an albatross over sea, over land, over deserts or arctic wastes.

A Complete Line of Textolite Molded Control Pulleys

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Sleeve
Bearings
and—



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EVERY Textolite control pulley is accurately molded around its bearing; this assures uniformly high quality and makes the bearing an integral part of the pulley. Even the cable groove is molded; there is no machining of the surfaces to expose the fabric and cause deterioration.

These Textolite pulleys conform to Army-Navy specifications and are approved by the United States Department of Commerce. They are not affected by moisture, gasoline, oil, salt spray, or weak acids. Ask for complete information. General Electric Company, Schenectady, N. Y.

Textolite molded control pulleys combine the appearance and technique required through the production of more than half a billion moldings.

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NOW THAT THE NEWS IS OUT

we can tell this one about the new

AIRWHEEL BRAKE

We call this brake new because it was first announced in print last month.

As a matter of fact, like anything Goodyear builds, it was under test for close to a year.

Back in 1930, at the time of the National Air Tour, two Wacos were equipped with this brake, as well as with Goodyear Airwheels.

When the tests were run and ratings established at Ford Airport prior to the Tour, these two Wacos made by far the best stick and unstick time of all competing planes.

That one fact tells a bookful about the power, the smoothness



and the sure, quick release which make pilots call this latest Goodyear development the greatest brake ever put on an airplane.

If you're interested in safe flying, find out the whole story. Write or wire to Aeronautics Department, Goodyear, Akron, Ohio, or Los Angeles, California.

WHEN YOU BUY A NEW SHIP SPECIFY GOODYEAR AIRWHEELS

GOODYEAR

EVERYTHING IN RUBBER FOR THE AIRPLANE

FOR EXECUTIVE TRANSPORT



SHELL OIL PICKS A SIKORSKY "S-39"

With important business connections at points spotted all over the map, the Aviation Department of Shell Eastern Petroleum Products has a keen interest in cutting down travel time. Like many other leading commercial and industrial organizations they find that the shortest distance between two points is often the straight line flown by their Sikorsky S-39 Amphibian. Particularly when one point is on water and the other is on land.

Travel time saved in a Sikorsky S-39 is never done at the expense of comfort. Five persons find luxurious ease in the cabin. Taxing shore

or aloft, the amphibian handles superbly. Clever hull lines, plenty of rudder surface—and a steerable tail wheel give the plane handling qualities on water which are usually obtained only with two or more engines. A 300 H. P. Wasp Engine gives the S-39 a speed of 119 miles per hour and her ceiling is 18,000 feet.

Other Sikorsky Amphibian types are the 16 place S-38; the S-41 which carries sixteen and the 40 passenger S-40. For information on any of these models, address Sikorsky Aviation Corporation, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Division of United Aircraft and Transport Corporation.



SIKORSKY AMPHIBION

WORLD'S RECORD
FOR SPEED
WITH LOADWORLD'S RECORD
FOR CLIMBING
WITH LOADSTANDARD THE **SILOUX** WORLD OVERVALVE SEAT REAMERS
for AEROPLANE MOTORS

Made for Precision Work

THE Sioux System of refacing valve seats in aero-plane motors makes it possible to obtain great accuracy with comparative ease and speed. The Sioux Aeroplane Reamer Set includes Sioux Pilot Stems, Feed Screw, Feed Screw Body, T Socket Handle, L. H. Aeroplane Reamers and Hammer.

The feed screw body has a spring within the feed, so that when the feed is screwed up it brings the reamer against the valve seat. The tension of the spring in connection with the feed keeps the reamer teeth beneath the surface of the metal. This adds much to the life of the reamer,—prevents the reamer from sliding over the glazed surface and thus avoids removing the cutting edge. The No. 1640 Feed Body is universal, so constructed that it automatically adjusts itself to every individual motor.

A cleverly designed pawl within the feed screw interlocks with a pawl on the pilot and thus eliminates the use of pins, set screws or threaded connections. Easily and quickly assembled.

Sioux Aeroplane Reamers are made of a special alloy tool steel which stands up and holds its cutting edge in the severe work of cutting the bronze valve seats used on most aeroplane motors. They are also made left handed so the tool can be turned to the right. Cutting resistance has been reduced by eliminating some of the cutting edges. Made in 45° finishing and roughing, 15° narrowing in finishing type and 75° narrowing in finishing type.

Your Jobber Sells Them

ALBERTSON & CO. INC.
SIOUX CITY, IOWA, U.S.A.

No. 1650 Sioux Aeroplane Reamer Set, Complete \$64.25

CITY HAILED AS KEY IN NAVY AIR GROWTH

League Island Factory and
Facilities Here Praised by
Commander Weyerbacher

CIVIL CHIEF'S FETE OFFICER

"Results over more than a decade have vindicated the Navy's choice of Philadelphia as the ideal Navy manufacturing and the best location for maintenance for the development and maintenance of naval aircraft," Commander Ralph D. Weyerbacher said yesterday.

Commander Weyerbacher, for joint head of the Naval Aircraft Factory in League Island, and now assigned to Washington as head of the technical division of the aircraft division of the United States Navy, was speaking at a luncheon sponsored him by the Philadelphia Committee of Commerce, of which he has been a member.

"The League Island plant, situated at the heart of the Navy's aircraft manufacturing, is now regarded as the great aviation workshop of the country," he said, "and the Committee is determined that its needs in the future should be filled by this city's industry."

"At present the plant at League Island has 100 employees and virtually is able to develop a complete engine and airframe, and working economically and efficiently are steadily decreasing our costs."

"It is worthy of note that of the men trained in that factory who have gone out into the other aircraft plants all have been highly successful."

"One of the principal problems in the development of the naval aircraft is the development of the naval aircraft which has gone forward."

"Philadelphia has wonderful material and all necessary materials in this city to serve the Navy's aircraft plant."

Reprinted from
Public Ledger
Dec. 24, 1929

"Actual experience is the best proof." Commander Weyerbacher's statement gives but part of Philadelphia's advantages, not only applying to aircraft manufacturing but to other industries as well.

Specific reports applying to your needs will be prepared by our Technical Staff if you request them on your own business stationery. Address Department B. C.

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You can double the
value of your time
in the air by study-
ing these two au-
thoritative books
on flying



by

LIEUTENANT BARRETT STUDLEY, U. S. Navy
Chief Flight Instructor, Naval Air Station, Pensacola, Fla.

No matter where you are learning to fly, **PRACTICAL FLIGHT TRAINING** and **HOW TO FLY** will save you time, cut the cost of your hours in the air, and above all teach you the fundamentals of flying safely. The man who has studied the maneuvers of flying on the ground is the man who learns them most quickly in the air. He knows precisely what he is trying to do. Therefore, he gets full value from every minute of instruction.

These two books give you the same course of instruction that student pilots at Pensacola receive in their training. You will actually learn to fly with a crack Navy pilot! Lieutenant Studley has had ten years' experience as a Naval aviator. He is familiar with all type of planes, both landplanes and seaplanes, from slow training craft to fast single-seaters and big multi-motored bombers. He knows Navy standards and how to train students to meet their rigid requirements. In these books you get the same instruction that he gives his own students—sound, understandable, practical and authoritative.

PRACTICAL FLIGHT TRAINING A Technical Book for the Flight School Student

This book is written for the man who is ready to begin flying. It contains everything which an experienced instructor will tell him about the actual handling of the controls in the air.

Some of the chapters cover: Aerodynamic principles of flight—Personal qualifications for flying—Causes of accidents—Safety precautions—Flying on Takeoffs—Control movements in the air—Turns, including slips, slides and how to avoid them—Spins—Landings—Tail spins and how to keep out of them—Cross-country flying—Forward landings and how to make them safely—Aerial navigation—The pilot's license.

Both landplanes and seaplanes are included in all chapters.

The only book of its size devoted entirely to the actual handling of an airplane in the air.

425 pages 160 illustrations Price \$2.50

HOW TO FLY A Popular Book for Every One Interested in Aviation

This book covers the same field as **PRACTICAL FLIGHT TRAINING**. The fundamental principles of flying and its most important practical problems are fully explained. But it is written in lay diction and form. All maneuvers are described in simple, untechnical terms which anyone can understand.

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NEW LAURELS OF DEPENDABILITY for SERIES B "HORNET" ENGINE

IN a little over a year of exacting military and commercial service the Series B "Hornet" engine has proved itself a worthy brother of the famous "Wasp." Speed, altitude and load tests have recorded its reliability. Mail and passenger carrying with the great air transport companies have shown how well this engine stands up under day and night service. And now, new laurels:

In what was probably the most strenuous 300-hour test ever made upon an aeromarine radial engine of its size, the "Hornet" B turned in new proof of its inherent sturdiness. Seventy-five hours of this test were made on full throttle. The remaining 225 were run at 95% power rating—far above normal cruising speed. Immediately after the test, the engine was placed on an electric calibrated dynamometer, where it pulled 435 H. P. at its rated speed of 1950 R. P. M., and at 2100 R. P. M. it registered 660 H. P. Power output increased steadily throughout the test, and final breakdown and inspection



The dynamometer shows the new rating developed for Series B "Hornet" engine. It also recorded temperatures in great detail and performance in the 300-hour test. The engine gave no sign of wear in the 300-hour test.



The Continental Hornet and the Pratt & Whitney Wasp, two of the most famous engines in the world.



A Pratt & Whitney Wasp "Hornet" engine, built for the U. S. for the new Boeing Stearman—fast, reliable, powerful and most prove of its flying time.

Wasp & Hornet Engines

tion revealed only moderate and normal wear of moving parts.

No wonder Series B "Hornet" used by Western Air Express have an average of 450 hours. No wonder 36 of these engines in the service of Pan American average 424 hours per engine—and many have logged 600 hours of service under tropic weather conditions. On over 95% of their posts, regularly scheduled air transport lines of this continent, engine reliability is being made a certainty by the use of "Wasp" and "Hornet" engines.

PRATT & WHITNEY AIRCRAFT CO.
SAY HARTFORD, CONN.
Continental Division of United Aircraft & Transport Corporation
Manufactured in Canada by Canadian Pratt & Whitney Aircraft Co., Ltd. (Incorporated) Ontario. In Continental Europe by Societe Motus Wasp, Brussels. In Japan by Nakajima Aircraft Works, Tokyo.

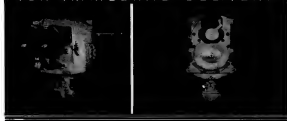
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OFFERS THE



for LIGHT PLANES

FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY



Power—35 h.p. at 2500 r.p.m.

Weight—138 lbs. dry with magnets and carburetor.

Construction—Four cylinders, four cycle, horizontally opposed L head with direct propeller drive.

Cooling—Air cooled with fins cast on cylinders and heads.

Operation—The same smoothness characterizes the A-40 that has made the A-70 famous.

100% Reliability—Horizontally opposed cylinder construction gives absolutely unobstructed valves.

Simplicity—Extremely compact, this engine at the same time offers unusual simplicity of construction.

Accessibility—Supported at rear of crankcase, ready access is provided to L head valve mechanism and carburetor system. Removable heads facilitate valve grinding.

The Continental A-40, like all other Continental aircraft products, has had thorough metallurgical, dynamometer and flight tests in the most complete aircraft laboratories in the world... Proven by Continental—proof for the pilot.

CONTINENTAL AIRCRAFT ENGINE COMPANY
General Office and Factory, Moline, Illinois

Continental

for the Airways of America



Eliminates Ignition Interference

THIS new B. G. radio shielded spark plug—in conjunction with shielded magnets and harness—eliminates all ignition interference; it keeps out dirt, water and oil, and gives positive contact.

Like other B. G. spark plugs, the new radio shielded plug is insulated with mica—the superior insulating material.

It has standard shell and core hexes, can be easily serviced with standard B. G. wrenches and tools, and assembled to harness without solder. Its terminal connections fit any make of shielded harness, and are interchangeable on all types of B. G. radio shielded spark plugs; elbow terminal prevents short-band wear and tear on harness, is easily removed, and provides quick accessibility.

The Hornet size B. G. radio shielded spark plug has an overall length of 3" from cylinder gasket seat, and weighs only 3-1/16 ounces complete with terminal.

This new B. G. plug is made in types for super-charged and super-compressed engines, and with range of operation to meet the idling conditions of winter, as well as those of full throttle.

It is manufactured under exclusive B. G. patents granted and pending.

Write for detailed information.

THE B. G. CORPORATION

136 WEST 52nd STREET, NEW YORK, N. Y.

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Managers show plans for
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ing moving toward completion are two of the city's
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erected by the Kansas City
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and the Fidelity National
Bank & Trust Company.
The former will be the
city's tallest building.



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INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEE, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE,
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Please send me the facts about Kansas City. I am interested in the

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(Use your advertisement in Aviation)



• mechanical excellence



The latest test airplane has been and will continue to be the most reliable in the world. It is the only one that has been tested in the most severe conditions of the air, and it has been found to be the most reliable in the world. It is the only one that has been tested in the most severe conditions of the air, and it has been found to be the most reliable in the world.

The record of Warner Scarab engines at the National Air Races, where they scored an unassailable, proven beyond all question of doubt their mechanical excellence and the advanced features of their design. For they have set a mark far beyond that ever before achieved in the annals of aviation—the winning for the third successive year of every cross country derby and closed course event in their power class, both for Cabin and Open Ships. There are engineering reasons—and a multiplicity of them—for this phenomenal performance. Pamphlets are available giving details of construction, both of the 7 Cylinder Warner Scarab 130 H.P. and of the 5 Cylinder Warner Scarab Junior 90 H.P. Write for them and find why Warner always comes through—why their operating and maintenance costs are almost unbelievably low.

WARNER AIRCRAFT CORPORATION
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

WARNER 'Scarab' ENGINES

Save Time With VAN DORN ELECTRIC TOOLS



Portable Electric Drills: Available in 110 and 220 volt sizes. Handy, compact, and easy to use. Ideal for use in the field.



Heavy Duty Screwdriver: Made of steel. Handy, compact, and easy to use. Ideal for use in the field.



Hand Saw: Made of steel. Handy, compact, and easy to use. Ideal for use in the field.



Portable Electric Saws: Available in 110 and 220 volt sizes. Handy, compact, and easy to use. Ideal for use in the field.



Hand Saw: Made of steel. Handy, compact, and easy to use. Ideal for use in the field.



Smaller, Lighter Electric Drills and Screwdrivers for Fast Work in Close Quarters.



DESIGNED for drilling small holes and driving small screws, the new Van Dorn Universal Twine makes short work of many tedious jobs met in airplane manufacture.

Each is designed for rapid operation—ruggedly constructed, light in weight, powerful, easily handled, efficient in close quarters. Body diameters are small and external surfaces rounded to afford the operator easy grasp at any part.

The screwdriver is equipped with an adjustable friction clutch which drives the screw flush and releases at once—no danger of marring the screw head or surrounding surface. Clutch can be set at any desired tension for driving various types and sizes of small screws into wood or metal.

The drill is fitted with a three-jaw ground chuck of 3/4" capacity. Each tool has a Universal Motor with ball bearings on the structure shaft and spindle. Equipped with a 3-conductor cable and attachment plug. Furnished for 110, 220 or 240 volts. See these tools at your distributor. Or mail the coupon for further information about the Van Dorn Universal Twine and for the complete catalog of Van Dorn Portable Electric Tools.

Mail Coupon for Catalog

FOR POWER SPECIFY

"Van Dorn"

The VAN DORN ELECTRIC TOOL CO.
TOWSON, MARYLAND

THE VAN DORN ELECTRIC TOOL CO.
TOWSON, MARYLAND

Please send me your catalog describing the complete Van Dorn line of portable electric tools. I am especially interested in:

☐ Universal Twine ☐ Hand Tools
☐ Electric Drills ☐ Electric Saws
☐ Heavy Duty Screwdriver ☐ Hand Saw

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____
Telephone _____



**DURING 1930
60 Important
Victories & Records
IN THE AIR**

SPEED records... altitude records... endurance records! Sensational victories in closed course events and distance flights over land and water! Triumphs under every flying condition... in competition with every leading brand of gasoline!

That is Richfield's record in aviation for 1930... a record that eclipses all its great performances of the past. Remember, too... that in commercial aviation Richfield flies more air transport miles daily than any other gasoline!

Certainly any gasoline that can perform so consistently... that can win so decisively must have definitely superior qualities. And Richfield has... power, speed and perfect carburetion... insuring fast, sustained, trouble-free flight at all times.

Get this great gasoline for your own plane... at important airports both east and west of the Mississippi.

RICHFIELD OIL COMPANY... Los Angeles... New York City



RICHFIELD

WRIGHT ENGINES BRING MORE POWER TO 1931 PLANES!



N rigorous service flights during the past two years, Wright has operated "Whirlwind 300's" under conditions that require from thirty to fifty per cent overload!

The "Whirlwind 300" in the Travel Air "Mystery" ship which swept the races at Cleveland and won the world's record for commercial planes, has given continuous and efficient service while delivering over 400 horsepower!

The "Whirlwind" that hurled Frank Hawks' "Texaco 15" across America at 215 m.p.h. and repeatedly at over 250 m.p.h. has performed most satisfactorily while turning out 400 horsepower and more!

That's the kind of performance you get when you fly behind an engine by Wright. Pilots know it by experience. Owners and operators know it by service checks. Passengers know it by smooth, dependable travel.

For the striking improvements that made these flights possible, as well as those in the new "Cyclone 375," choice of Colonel Lindbergh and Lieutenant Al Williams, are constantly being incorporated into regular production Wright engines!

To build one engine that leads one class is one thing. To build engines that fit every flying need, and to keep each engine far in front is another thing. Yet that's what Wright has done for years, and what these constant developments do again for Wright owners of 1931!



WRIGHT
AERONAUTICAL CORPORATION
PATERSON, NEW JERSEY



A DIVISION OF CHRYSLER CORPORATION



The
airlines are ready for
STEARMAN
OWNERS



Watch the Stearman down there on the runway . . . soon to leave the new Stearman factory. Fine ships, these Stearmans. They're working up—distance beaten. What a wealth of pleasure ahead. The airlines are ready . . . reaching out across the continent are Stearman facilities . . . It's "home" wherever Stearmans go. Flying will come to this . . . Stearman, backed by United, is pointing the way. STEARMAN AIRCRAFT COMPANY, WICHITA, KANSAS, Division of United Aircraft and Transport Corp.



(with Speedwell 200 and 400 H.P.

... with Speedwell 240 H.P.

For
every flying reason

STEARMAN



A SENSE OF SECURITY

is an added comfort

The luxurious interiors of planes, their Pullman-like appointments and the application of every known safety device have all contributed their share to the ever-increasing popularity of air travel in this country.

But crowd-control at landing fields is just as important as a safety factor. If crack pilots are unnerved by a crowded field, what feelings must the inexperienced air-traveler suffer.

Many transport operators have solved this problem by enclosing the promenades and parking areas with Anchor Fences, thereby insuring a clear field for landing planes. An Anchor Fenced field sighted by a passenger gives him a sense of security, which is truly a real added comfort.

ANCHOR FENCE COMPANY

Business Offices and Show Room: Baltimore, Maryland

Chicago, Kansas, Seattle, St. Louis, St. Paul, Minneapolis, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, St. Louis, New Orleans, San Francisco, Sacramento

Representatives in all principal cities. (Consult your local classified directory)



An Anchor Fence doing crowd-control duty during the landing of Coast's plane.

ANCHOR FENCES

MADE BY THE MAKERS OF AMERICA'S FIRST CHAIN LINK FENCE



BUILDING STAMINA INTO CHANCE VOUGHT AIRPLANES

To this inspection table comes every tubular part—and only perfect units ever pass it.

Welded into the engine mount and fuselage of every Chance Vought airplane are dozens of pieces of tubular steel. Rigid specifications fix the formula for the material. Careful inspection and tests of stock as it is received make certain that it meets requirements in strength, hardness, ductility and elasticity.

Then, when frame members are out for assembling, after sand blasting to remove all dirt and grease, they pass to the inspection table shown above. Electric spinning and a

high intensity inspection lamp equipped with magnifying lenses help skilled inspectors to spot the smallest flaw. And only perfect parts pass on.

There you have one of the basic reasons why Vought planes stand up in the rigorous service of the Navy and the Marine Corps. Launched from catapults . . . landed on surging steel decks . . . halted by relentless arresting gear . . . these airplanes, built in the modern Vought plant at East Hartford, thrive on hard service. Chance Vought Corporation, East Hartford, Connecticut. Division of United Aircraft & Transport Corporation.



**CHANCE VOUGHT
CORPORATION**



AMERICAN STEEL SHEETS

QUALITY



SERVICE

For Airport Buildings, Hangers, Shops and Sheds



Unexcelled for All Construction Uses—Above or Below Ground

STEEL SHEETS are serving an important and ever growing list of uses. For roofing and siding in industrial construction; for gutters, spouting, flashings, metal lath, and similar uses in well-built structures; for ventilating and air-conditioning systems in great skyscrapers; for molding, ash, trim and doors in fireproof buildings; and for metal furniture, cabinets, and equipment for both office and home. Also in growing demand for airfield work, culverts, and underground uses. Be sure the sheet metal you use has a reputation for quality and endurance. Specify **AMERICAN Black and Galvanized Sheets, Tin and Terne Plates** for all purposes. **KRYTOLOYE** quality (steel alloyed with copper) gives maximum rust-resistance. Sold by leading metal merchants.



American Sheet and Tin Plate Company

General Offices: Fifth Building, PITTSBURGH, PA.

SUBSIDIARY OF UNITED STATES STEEL CORPORATION



Product of American Sheet and Tin Plate Company, a subsidiary of United States Steel Corporation, Pittsburgh, Pa. The United States Steel Corporation is a corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York. Its principal office is at 60 Broadway, New York City, N. Y. Its principal business is the manufacture and sale of steel and steel products. It is a member of the United States Steel Corporation.

Do you know that . . .

each month our subscription department receives more than 150 requests for "Back" issues of AVIATION?

♦ ♦ ♦

If we printed extra copies of our monthly issues, we would be glad to comply with these requests, but unfortunately we have no way of knowing in advance just how many of our newsstand readers will "miss" an issue.

♦ ♦ ♦

But We Do Know — that each of these requests indicates a reader has "missed" just the issue he could make valued use of.

Insure your receiving
AVIATION regularly by filling in the
coupon below, today . . .

AVIATION
10th Avenue at 34th Street
New York City

Subscription Rates:
U. S., Canada and Mexico, \$5;
Central and South America, \$6;
all others, \$8.

Here is my check for \$5.00. Send me Aviation for one full year.

Name

Address

City and State

Nature of Activity



For complete mastery in ground maneuvers **BENDIX** WHEELS AND BRAKES

A new and generous factor of safety, due to greatly increased efficiency in all ground operations—these have established Bendix Wheels and Brakes firmly among the preferences of leading aeronautical engineers.

Alexander Industries, Inc.
Beltmore Aircraft Corporation
Boeing Aircraft Company
Bull Aircraft Company
Cessna Aircraft Company
Consolidated Aircraft Corp.
Curtis Aeroplane & Motor
Company
Curtis-Reidman Aircraft
Manufacturing Company

Curtis-Wright Aircraft
Company
Douglas Aircraft Company,
Inc.
Fokker Aircraft Corp.
Fokker Aircraft Corp.
General Aircraft Corporation
E. M. Laird Aircraft Corporation
Griffith Aircraft Corporation
Hess Aircraft Corporation

The Glenn L. Martin Company
Hawthorn Aircraft Company
Hawthorn Aircraft, Incorporated
Norton Aircraft Corporation
Reynolds Aircraft Corp.
Vought Aircraft Company
Chrysler Corporation
M. S. Air Corp. (for all types)
M. S. Navy Bureau of
Aeronautics etc.

BENDIX BRAKE COMPANY
SOUTH BEND, INDIANA
(Division of Bendix Aviation Corporation)

BENDIX BRAKES

FOR SAFETY

FULLY PROTECTED BY PATENTS AND APPLICATIONS IN U. S. AND ABROAD

Air Mail Sales Free



CONTACT!

CONTACT! Spin the prop. . . Fueled with Socony Aviation Gasoline, she starts quickly. No "loading up" or flooding at the carburetor. A few minutes to warm her, and you're ready to take off.

You'll get as many r.p.m.'s as your motor was built to deliver, when you use Socony Aviation Gasoline and the New Socony Motor Oil. These Socony products are on sale at nearly every large airport in New York and New England.

SOCONY

AVIATION GASOLINE

NEW SOCONY MOTOR OIL

STANDARD OIL COMPANY OF NEW YORK

Convincing Proof

. . . that Hardened Metallic Drive Screws make *stronger* as well as cheaper fastenings



Here shown *fit* of the Machine Screw in tapped hole.



See right arrangement of Hardened Metallic Drive Screws in metal.



The easiest and cheapest way of making permanent fastenings is also the strongest. Merely hammering Hardened Metallic Drive Screws into holes, drilled or formed in iron, brass and aluminum castings, steel or Bakelite, makes better fastenings than those made with machine screws or bolts and nuts. This is proven by comparative laboratory tests conducted by unbiased authorities.

A convincing explanation of the greater holding power of a Hardened Metallic Drive Screw under vibration, the chief cause of fastening failure, is offered by the microscope. Remembering that the security of a fastening under vibration depends upon how tightly the screw threads are engaged in the metal, look at the microscopic microphotographs here. It is easy to see why the Hardened Metallic Drive Screw holds better.

Now how this unique Screw forms a thread in the metal as it is driven . . . how that action engulfs the screw threads so firmly in the metal that screw and metal are practically one. Then observe that between the machine screw threads and the tapped threads

(commercial tolerance) there is considerable space . . . space which permits the machine screw to loosen under vibration.

Under stresses of tension and shear, a stronger fastening is obtained with a Hardened Metallic Drive Screw because it possesses greater tensile strength than an ordinary screw, being made of a special steel, scientifically treated.

The booklet offered here shows how users of these Screws effect substantial savings through elimination of blow and costly tapping, finishing with bolts and nuts and other assembly difficulties. Use weapons to obtain it.

PARKER-KALON
HARDENED METALLIC
Drive Screws

FOR ALL OF YOUR HARDWARE NEEDS



Parker-Kalon Corp., Dept. M., 125-126 Varck St., New York.
Send free booklet on Economy and Security of Drive Screws.
(Complete list of dealers will be sent if you tell us what you desire.)

Name and Co. _____
Address _____

FACTS

*to help you in planning
for 1931*

THIS year, the aircraft industry's need for reliable data by which to measure present operations and on which to base new plans is more acute than ever.

In March, AVIATION will again present a complete statistical picture of the progress made by the industry during the last calendar year.

Because of the excellence of this service in the past, the aircraft industry and those especially interested in its progress have learned to rely upon AVIATION for the most complete and accurate compilation and intelligent interpretation of basic facts that is available anywhere.

This year, more perhaps than ever before, this statistical data will be of immediate practical value to readers engaged in finance and management, design, engineering, production and sales promotion, air transport and fixed base operations, and in construction and management of airports.

Every executive in your organization should have a copy of the March Statistical Issue for reference throughout the year.

ADVERTISERS: Forms for the Statistical Issue will close February 15. Color will be available at \$75 per page for red or blue, \$60 for other commercial colors.

THE STATISTICAL ISSUE—MARCH

AVIATION



Air travel is the most modern and most luxurious form of human transportation, and that is one of its principal claims for success. But in most cases today, it begins and ends in the most primitive fashion....in mud.

This is no longer necessary. Great progress has been made recently in airport-surfacing with limited funds. The experience of the highway industry in the construction, with Tarmac, of vast areas of secondary roads

under small budgets has been applied to airport paving.

Let us tell you how this can be done on your runways with Tarmac® at small cost.

"Having the Same Run of the Road."

AMERICAN TAR PRODUCTS COMPANY

Division of The Koppers Company
General Office, PITTSBURGH, PA.

Surface  **Tarmac**

**RUNWAYS... PARKING
AREAS... HANGAR APRONS
CONNECTING ROADS
TAXI STRIPS..... AT
MODERATE COST...**

Smooth IDLING»



SMOOTH low speed operation is now possible in aircraft engines. One reason is that Stromberg Carburetors feed the engine uniformly at low speed, keep them running smoothly, evenly, yet able to pick up at the slightest touch of the throttle.

To assure low speed fuel delivery, Stromberg Carburetors have a thin tube, or idling passage, from the fuel chamber to the top of the carburetor just above the throttle. With throttle completely closed, and the gas running over slowly, there is sufficient suction to raise the fuel through the idling tube into the engine. At low speeds, the idling system operates entirely independent of the main fuel metering passage of the carburetor. As the throttle is opened, and the suction in the carburetor increases, fuel begins to flow through the main system, and delivery from the idling system decreases.

Stromberg engineers, with 27 years of carburetor experience, will gladly cooperate in working out any carburetor problem.



(Over 95% of the aircraft engines being built in the United States today are Stromberg equipped.)

STROMBERG CARBURETORS

BENDIX STROMBERG CARBURETOR COMPANY

A DIVISION OF BENDIX AVIATION CORPORATION

701 BENDIX DRIVE • SOUTH BEND, INDIANA

a Battery made to fly

... light-weight ... compact ... safe

Exide Aircraft Batteries are especially built to meet rigid air requirements



Out of the grasp of night comes the field in safety. Landing lights can be depended on with Exides on the job.

THE most vital parts of a "ship" are dependent on the battery carried. Starting, ignition, cabin lights, navigation and landing lights, instrument board and radio must be certain of electric power. You can be sure with Exide Aircraft Batteries in your fuselage.

Exides are so designed that the electrolyte will not spill. They have proved their worth over millions of miles of sky lanes... in all kinds of weather.

Ask your flying friends about Exides... about their reliability. Or write today for further information on the many types of Exide Aircraft Batteries and their varied applications.

Exide AIRCRAFT BATTERIES



The Exide Aircraft Battery is especially designed for hard flying service.

THE ELECTRIC STORAGE BATTERY COMPANY, Philadelphia

THE WORLD'S LARGEST MANUFACTURERS OF STORAGE BATTERIES FOR EVERY PURPOSE

Exide Batteries of Canada, Limited, Toronto



SRB Ball Bearings are used at all Important Points in Lycoming Aircraft Engines

FOR the axial loads on the crankshaft, to sustain the propeller thrust and support the rocker arms, Lycomings have chosen SRB—because SRB with its maximum number of large balls, hot forged from molybdenum steel, gives the utmost in load carrying capacity and that dependability so necessary in aeronautical power plants.

That is why SRB Ball Bearings predominate

in the aircraft engine field and are found in Wright, Curtiss, Pratt and Whitney, Warner, LeBlond, Veale and other well known engines.

Specify SRB, the aeronautical ball bearing for absolute dependability in your own equipment. Make sure that the ball bearing specification is worthy of the equipment you build. SRB engineers will be glad to cooperate with your engineering department.

Ball Bearings

STANDARD STEEL AND BEARINGS INCORPORATED
Chicago
Sole U.S. and Canadian Distributors
Lycoming Engine Company
P.O. Box 100, Lancaster, Pa.
P. M. O'Donnell Co., Inc. 100 Broadway, New York City
Pittsburgh Steel Corp., 1000 Main St., Pittsburgh, Pa.

Lower Motor Maintenance Costs

The length of time between necessary service overhauls and the cost of these overhauls is a principal factor in figuring operating efficiency. When motor maintenance

runs abnormally high—profits disappear. Quality lubricants will lower maintenance costs and increase the operating time between overhauls.

Gulfpride Oils

Are

America's Highest Quality Aircraft Oils

Extensive research by the Gulf Refining Company is responsible for GULFPRIDE—refined specially for Aircraft use. GULFPRIDE OILS are available at principal airports.

Take a tip from the headline flyers. Use GULFPRIDE regularly and note the difference.

GULF REFINING COMPANY

RALPH STARR BUTLER

*Vice President
Exchange of Advertising*

*General Foods
Corporation*

"I cannot believe that the present enormous budgets would have been voted by responsible business men without such a measuring stick as the A. B. C. provides. Its foundation marks the turning point in advertising."

Ralph Starr Butler



PHIL L. THOMSON

*Director of Public
Relations*

*Western Electric
Company*

"Business men never have spent millions to buy circulation by the pile. Accumulated to purchase copper, lumber or lead by a scrapful unit of measure, we asked the same type of yardstick for space. The A. B. C. gave it to us."

Phil L. Thomson



An Advertisement by

AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

Executive Office . . . Chicago

Advertisers, men who direct the budgets of great companies . . .

Men who spend money for space in order to promote more profitable business . . .

Looking back over the active decades, they search out the turning point in American Advertising, the period when the confidence of business was won.

Independently, they agree on time and place.

It was the discovery of the Yardstick . . . The finding of a unit of measure for the value of advertising space. A unit as positive, as reliable, as the measure for coal or wheat.

Sixteen years ago a group of advertisers met with publishers and agencies in Chicago. To bring order out of chaos in circulation claims, they founded, on May 20, 1914, the Audit Bureau of Circulations.

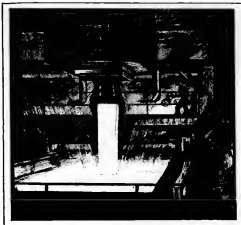
In 1914, publication advertising totaled about \$250,000,000. In 1927, year of the latest government report, it had reached over a billion dollars.

That this growth could not have come without the A. B. C. is the judgment of advertisers themselves.

Founded at the instance of advertisers, having advertisers in the majority on its Board of Directors, the A. B. C. exists to safeguard the interests of advertisers.

For them, it faces the task ahead against the chaos that once was advertising. It has enabled them to buy advertising with confidence.

In recognition of this service, an increasing number of leading advertisers hold membership today in the Audit Bureau of Circulations.



Down, down . . . into the Soaking Pit

A red ingot of acid steel from the open-hearth mill. Now, it is going into the soaking pit to insure thorough, uniform heating throughout. Then, sparkling white—on through to the blooming mill.

Seemingly endless are the operations in the making of Roebling Aircraft Wire, Strand and Cord. Each calls for a highly specialized skill and experience. Fine craftsmanship prevails throughout the entire range.

At Roebling the most modern of manufacturing methods and machinery are daily producing thousands of feet of Roebling Wire Aircraft Products. But tradition plays a part, too. It is old-fashioned thoroughness that guards that extra measure of service for which these products are noted.

JOHN A. ROEBLING'S SONS COMPANY
WIRE, WIRE ROPE, WELDING WIRE, PLATE WIRE,
COILS AND INSULATED WIRE, AND CARBON
WIRE CLOTHES AND WIRE NETTING.
TRENTON, N. J. Branches in Principal Cities

ROEBLING WIRE AIRCRAFT PRODUCTS

PENNZOIL
FOR WINTER
an ideal lubricant
for airplane motors
Costs less per flying hour

Pennzoil for Winter starts easily in the coldest weather and lubricates perfectly under all flying conditions. It doesn't thin out and break down after a few hours' flying like ordinary oils.

Because of its reliability and economy, it has been adopted by America's great passenger lines and is used by good operators everywhere.

It lasts twice as long as ordinary oils, giving you many extra hours of flying with every filling.

Pennzoil is made from 100% Pennsylvania crude and nothing else. It differs from all other Pennsylvania oils because of the famous Pennzoil process which uses only the heart of the crude—the fraction richest in lubricating efficiency. Sold by good dealers from Maine to California.

THE PENNZOIL COMPANY, Executive Office and Refinery: Oil City, Western Offices New York, Chicago, Los Angeles

It isn't enough to ask for "Pennsylvania oil"—to be sure of lowest cost per mile, ask "PENNZOIL"

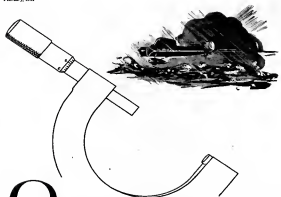
35¢ a quart

["Highly Rated" in Canada]



These Pennzoil Tests and only Pennzoil's do! Pennzoil's motor W-15 and aviation S-16 oils, machine testing readings 10-11. Standard Record 10-11.

This seal is more than a pledge of 100% Pure Pennsylvania. It is our guarantee to you of highest quality finished Motor Oil.



ONE PLACE
where nothing but the BEST will do

IT is written indelibly into Aviation precepts that only the best of engineering talent may design engines and engine parts, and likewise, that only those shops whose experience, equipment and code have given them a standard of exacting accuracy to produce these parts.

The shops of Govro-Nelson were among the first in America to signify complete understanding of these demands by the installation

of production machines that work with almost human care, using equipment that checks and re-checks with an accuracy of .0001" and a precision that is both wise in experience and young in vision. (The experimental and production facilities of Govro-Nelson are used increasingly by aircraft engine manufacturers who are honestly striving for correctness of design and dependability while in flight.

THE
GOVRO-NELSON
COMPANY

1931 ANTOINETTE DETROIT

CRAFTSMEN TO THE AVIATION INDUSTRY

PACKARD-DIESEL



IMPROVED IN PERFORMANCE

Further perfection of the Packard-Diesel now gives a fresh "new impetus to flight." Through refinements it offers even greater advantages than ever before!

Today's Packard-Diesel will out perform any aircraft powerplant of equal horsepower rating. In all its performance characteristics—instantaneous acceleration—slow engine idling speed, in glide or dive—unfaltering smoothness—inherent reliability—and remarkable starting ease—today's Packard-Diesel is unexcelled.

In addition, the Packard-Diesel provides a host of exclusive advantages—safety from the fire hazard by its use of fire-safe fuel—freedom from radio interference by the very nature of its design. And its remarkable fuel economy has not only reduced operation costs but also it has increased payloads and extended the cruising radius of aircraft.

Since the Packard-Diesel was announced last April, installations have been made on practically all representative ships built in this country.


PACKARD MOTOR CAR COMPANY
Detroit



ASK THE MAN WHO OWNS ONE

FAMOUS FLIGHTS WITH THOMPSON VALVES TO THE LAND OF THE KANGAROO IN THE



Thompson
Valves 

"Southern Cross"

In the judgment of air-trained men, no flight in history excels . . . in skill, daring and aeronautical importance . . . the brilliant achievement of Capt. E. Kingsford-Smith, Capt. G. T. P. Ulm, Lieut. Com. H. W. Lynn, Jr., and James W. Warner, with the "Southern Cross."

Leaving Oakland, California, on May 31, 1931, they covered the 7,400 miles to Brisbane, Australia, in less than 85 flying hours . . . with intermediate landings on the tiny islands of Honolulu and Savu, Fiji Islands.

Important contributors to the success of this famous flight were the 54 Thompson Valves in the 5 Wright Whirlwind motors of the "Southern Cross."

Such consistent dependability, in this and practically every other outstanding American flight since 1925, has influenced the adoption of Thompson Valves for America's finest aero motors.

THOMPSON PRODUCTS, INCORPORATED
General Office: Cleveland, Ohio, U. S. A.
Factories: CLEVELAND and DETROIT





PERSONNEL AND PLANT THAT CONTRIBUTE TO *PROVEN DEPENDABILITY*



in military, commercial and sport flying the Hamilton Standard trade-mark on metal propellers has come to stand for absolute dependability. Many factors have helped to build and maintain that reputation. Of these, personnel and plant are basically important.

The men who work on Hamilton Standard propellers must necessarily be something more than just good mechanics. Both blades and hubs involve painstaking hand shaping as well as accurately controlled machining. These men take as much pride in the contribution which the dependability

of Hamilton Standard propellers has made to greater safety in air operations, as they do in the contribution which their efficiency has made in the more spectacular records for speed and altitude.

And the new and modern plant at Hamoterial is designed to give full expression to skill and craftsmanship. Plenty of light and air. The latest in machine equipment—much of it specially designed. A place vibrant with the will to produce perfect propellers, and pride in doing supremely well each step in the process from the preliminary inspection of incoming material to the last detail of final test.

HAMILTON STANDARD PROPELLER CORPORATION

PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA



DIVISION OF THE AVIATION CORPORATION
AND TRANSPORT CORPORATION

FAIRCHILD AIRPLANES

Whether you are flying the largest transport or the smallest sport plane, your safety and satisfaction depend on quality.



Fairchild KR-31

Slightly used factory demonstration of all biplane and cabin models in excellent condition for sale at most attractive prices from \$2200 upwards.

Full information upon request.

FAIRCHILD AIRPLANE MFG. CORP.

Farmingdale, Long Island, N. Y.

BRANCHES:
Chicago, Ill. & Los Angeles, Calif.
Dallas, Texas
Los Angeles, California & Atlantic
San Francisco, Calif.

DIVISION OF THE AVIATION CORPORATION



Fairchild KR-340

FAIRCHILD AIRPLANES are all built to meet the standards of quality—never to a price. That is why they have made new frontiers beyond the ALTON Circle in Canada and Alaska, and with field in the Amazon. They are regularly carrying the mail and passengers over the South American Andes, in Mexico and throughout North America, in the service of commercial operators, the U. S. Army and Navy, the Canadian and other foreign Governments. You, too, will find PRIDE OF OWNERSHIP in their quality and rugged dependability.

New Prices

KR-31 Two place Sportster and Trainer, with complete equipment. Low pressure tires and brakes (shown) not included. Price \$3950.00

KR-21B Three model as KR-31 but the Winner can be made with increased performance. Low pressure tires and brakes included. Price \$4525.00

KR-340 Three place test, sport and trainer. Standard 150 hp. engine. Completely equipped. Price \$5675.00

KR-34C Three place high speed and training. Standard 150 hp. engine. Completely equipped and standard performance. Price \$6200.00



Fly straight as a homing pigeon

Fly your own ship 'cross country with unerring sense of direction, guided straight to your destination by Western Electric Airplane Telephone—the equipment selected by fifteen leading airlines.

By short wave radio telephone you talk with Western Electric equipped ground stations that dot the routes shown on the map. Over your long wave receiver you hear Government weather broadcasts and directional radio signals.



Routes equipped by Western Electric

You always know your true course and position—you always have up-to-the-minute information on flying and landing conditions ahead. No more losing your way over strange country—no more groping in clouds or fog.

Take advantage of these communication facilities—install Western Electric Equipment in your plane. Write for details to Western Electric Company, Dept. 251A, 195 Broadway, New York.

Western Electric
Aviation Communication Systems



MADE BY THE COMPANY
OF NEW YORK

....Pioneers! EDO FLOATS



1926



1931

HUNDREDS of EDO Floats are in service today, among them the first models which EDO designed and manufactured in 1926. This record is practical proof that EDO all-metal floats, with their tries, staunch construction, ease of maintenance and years of service, have abundantly met the requirements of airplane manufacturers, transport operators and private owners. EDO float installations, interchangeable with wheel landing gear, are licensed for use in the United States or Canada on more than 38 distinct types of land planes—more than all other makes of floats combined.

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Water-tight, built-in every a float.

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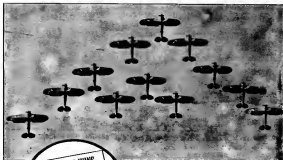
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